HISTORY OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY MOVEMENT
IN
WESTERN MAHARASHTRA
(1805 - 1921)

BY

SHRI S G MAHAJAN

Jayakar Library, University of Poona

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Research Guide

Dr. A R Kulkarni

Professor and Head of the Department of History

University of Poona, Pune 7

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List of Abbreviations

BBRAS	Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society
BNGL	Bombay Native General Library.
ED	Education Department, Bombay.
FC	Fergusson College, Pune
GBP	Gazetteer of the Bombay Presidency
GD	General Department, Bombay.
GR	Government Resolution.
ITIHASI	Aitihasik Lekhasangraha ed by V.V.Khare
LSB	Literary Society of Bombay.
MG	Marathi Granthasangrahalaya.
NGL	Native General Library.
PD	Political Department
SMI	Sassoon Mechanics Institute, Bombay.
SPD	Selections from the Peshwa Daftar ed. by G.S.Sardesai.
SSL	Social Service League, Bombay.
TICD	Times of India Calendar and Directory.
VAD	Selections from the Satara Raja's and Peshwa's Diaries. Ed. by Vad and Parasnis.
RBE	Report of the Board of Education, Bombay.
RDPI	Report of the Director of Public Instruction, Bombay.

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CHAPTER - 1

Nature and Scope of the Study

Library

Granthalaya or Library literally means a house or store of books. In the context of a library, books mean any material in which knowledge is recorded - about the past and the present. The books may be written in various scripts and languages. Similarly the material used for writing the book may be papers, palm leaves, birch barks, or such other material. The books may be handwritten (called manuscripts) or printed. Similarly there must be readers who may use the books for study, research or for imparting instruction or for recreation, or for passing the leisure time. Books and other reading materials are the product of intellectual pursuit of an individual or a group of individuals or an activity which is carried out by the mankind for centuries together. Therefore libraries are treated as depositories of cultural and intellectual activities of the society.

By preserving books and other reading materials in libraries, libraries maintain a permanent record of the achievements of the earlier generationsin various fields. Knowledge in books is always cumulative in its nature because while writing any new book , the writer always tries to know

and study what has already been done by others. Later generations are always benefitted by the knowledge and experience of the earlier generations which is recorded in books. This accumulated knowledge provides a starting point for further search or enquiry, saves the time of the existing enquirer and avoids duplication of work.

Thus libraries provide a store of knowledge accumulated for generations together, facilitating dissemination of knowledge. Libraries are therefore, treated as centres of learning. They are reservoirs or fountains of knowledge. Study of this knowledge results again into generating of new knowledge.

Libraries of a particular region, therefore, reflect to a certain extent the intellectual activity of the people therein, at a point of time in that area. They also focus our attention on the activity of the mankind in the pursuit of knowledge.

Public Library

Public library is that which is financed for the most part out of public funds and which charges no direct fees from readers and yet is open for full use by the public without distinction of caste, creed or sex.[1] In the present study, however, the term public library has been used in the sense that the public library is a library wherein the

admission is free or open to all the people without any distinction of caste, creed or sex on payment of subscription, at the rates prescribed by the institution for its use. These libraries are otherwise called 'subscription libraries'.

In the Bombay Presidency, these subscription libraries were named as Native Libraries or Native General Libraries prefixed or suffixed by the name of the town where they existed.

Movement

History of public libraries is viewed as a movement. Movement has been defined as (a) motion, (b) change of position and (c) joint action. In the context of this study, motion refers to increase in the number of libraries, the rate of growth of libraries and the continuity of public libraries over a period of time. Change of position refers to the progress and development made by these libraries during this period. The nature of change, the direction of change, the form of change, the sources of change, the causes of change are to be studied. The areas of library development, the models of public libraries developed or evolved and the transformation in the character of the public libraries from 1805 to 1921 is to be discussed.

Joint action refers to the support received by this movement from the people and other sections of the society, the government, the chiefs of states, the rich and the common

people interested in libraries. It also refers to the nature of cooperation among libraries, the leadership of the libraries and the contributions made by the social workers to the development of libraries. It also examines the question about the impact made over the library movement by the various political, social, educational, economic, religious movements launched in India and Western Maharashtra in particular in the affairs of public libraries.

Western Maharashtra

It is found convenient by the research workers to trace the growth and development of libraries in a small geographical area and hence the geographical area what is now known as Western Maharashtra is chosen for this study. Western Maharashtra includes the following districts of the present Maharashtra State - Bombay City and suburban area, Poona, Satara, Kolhapur, Sangli, Sholapur, Ratnagiri, Kolaba, Ahmednagar, Dhulia, Jalgaon and Thana. These districts are geographically contiguous with each other and have remained mostly as one administrative unit of the Bombay Presidency from the beginning of the nineteenth century. Princely States within this area are also included in this study.

Period covered

The period covered for detailed study is from 1805 to 1921. Upto 1805, all the libraries in Maharashtra were

manuscripts libraries mostly owned by private individuals and the use of these libfaries was restricted to a few. With the establishment of the library of the Literary Society of Bombay in 1805, libraries of printed books and periodicals began to be established and the number of such libraries of printed books and periodicals increased in the later century. Different types of libfaries were established at various places in Western Maharashtra. All these libraries made progress individually and there was no direct interaction or cooperation among these libraries upto 1921. It is for the first time in the history of library development in Western Maharashtra that all the libraries and reading rooms in Western Maharashtra came together in the First Maharashtra Free Reading Rooms and Libraries Conference held in 1921 at Poona resulting into formation of Maharashtra Free Libraries Association in 1921. Thus in 1921 the libraries in Maharashtra got a corporate personality and a beginning was made to promote library movement collectively.

Similarly upto 1919 all the public libraries were governed by the Education Department or the Director of Public Instruction led by British Officers. Due to the passing of the Government of India Act 1919, the Education portfolio was transferred to the Indian Member of the Governor's Council. Thus the present study confines itself to the period during which the Public Libraries were exclusively under the British control.

Studies made earlier

Various studies have been made regarding the writing, collection and preservation of books, establishment and development of libraries covering the period upto 1805, by scholars like V.K.Bhave[2], N.G.Chapekar[3], A.K.Priolkar[4], Dr.P.M.Joshi[5,6,7], V.A.Kanole[8], C.G.Karve[9], V.B.Belsare[10], Dr.K.G.Nitsure[11], Dr.R.C.Dhere[12]. However very few studies have been made of the libraries established from 1805 to 1921.

The Library Development Committee[13] appointed by the Government of Bombay under the Chairmanship of A.A.A.Fyzee in 1939 has given a resume of library development in the Bombay Presidency. The souvenir published on the occasion of the All India Library Conference[14] held in Bombay in 1942 presents short histories of libraries in the Bombay City which are based on the accounts of respective libraries supplied by the Secretaries of these libraries.

Shri A K Priolkar, veteran scholar and historian has contributed scholarly articles on this topic. In his paper submitted to the Indian History Congress[15] he has given detailed account of the establishment and development of libraries in the Bombay Presidency mostly upto 1850. He has given detailed information about the station libraries established from 1821 to 1836, the foundation of the Bombay General Library (1830) and Ahmednagar Native Library, efforts made by Captain French, the founder of the Ahmednagar Native

Library for the foundation of native libraries and the impetus given by the Board of Education for the formation of native libfaries during 1850's. He has also described the important landmarks in the history of the library development in the Bombay Presidency.

In addition to the information contained in the above paper, he has given information about the Poona Library Society founded in 1823 in his address at Poona in 1949[16]. In his later articles he has given information about Captain French[17], the foundation of the Bombay Native General Library[18], the attitude of Hindus towards printed books in the first half of nineteenth century[19] and the Press and Registration of Books Act[20] etc.

In 1951, L.V.Padole[21] collected various articles on history of Marathi Libraries, but he did not mention any article relating to the period under study. In 1953, Shri S.D.Barve[22] in his dissertation submitted to the Bombay University for the Degree of Master of Education has traced the history of libraries in the Bombay Presidency which is based mainly on secondary sources and articles published by A.K.Priolkar. Special feature of this study is that of collection of data regarding the condition of public libraries in 1950's by sending a questionnaire to the libraries. The analysis of the data shows the state of public libraries in the Bombay State during 1950's.

A brief review of the public library development from 1855 to 1955 has been taken by the Department of Education of the Government of Bombay in 1958[23]. This review is based mainly on the annual reports of the Board of Education and Department of Public Instruction of the Bombay Presidency.

The author of the present study has briefly compiled information about the establishment of libraries and growth of library movement in Maharashtra in his two publications, Directory of Libraries in Maharashtra[24] (1965) and Directory of Library Personnel in Maharashtra[25] (1967).

Shri A.K. Ohdedar[26] has further studied the working of the library of the Literary Society of Bombay upto 1836 mainly on the secondary sources and the establishment of the Bombay General Library, based on the materials available at the National Library, Calcutta.

Besides these general studies, historical accounts of some of the libraries established during 1805 and 1921 have been written by persons connected with the libraries on the occasion of celebration of Centenary, Diamond Jubilee, Silver Jubilee etc. of these libraries and are published in the form of books, pamphlets, souvenirs, smarenikas or articles in newspapers or magazines. Many of the studies are popular descriptive accounts. But studies of libraries like Kolhapur Native Library (1917)[27], Poona City General

Library (1949)[28], Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society (1954)[29], Sangli Nagar Vachanalaya (1969)[30], Mumbai Marathi Granthasangrahalaya (1973)[31] are based fully or partly on the original sources such as Annual Reports, Minute Books, Account Books and Correspondence available in these institutions and therefore prove valuable for studying the history of that particular library.

Historical accounts of Native General Libraries at Gargoti, Pali, Jalgaon, Malegaon, Mangalvedha, Dhulia, Vengurla are very brief but they are based on original sources some of which are not traceable at present in these libraries. Rest of the studies are mostly popular descriptive accounts.

From this brief survey it will be observed that many of the studies are not based on primary sources. Secondly many accounts are written by non-experts in a free-lance style. Thirdly each library is studied individually. Establishment and development of libraries is not viewed totally and as a movement, the rate of growth, features of development and aspects of change have not been studied in detail.

It was therefore felt necessary to undertake a comprehensive study of public libraries in Western Maharashtra based on all types of sources - original and secondary, published or unpublished, available in the libraries and elsewhere.

Aims and objects of the study

1. To trace the establishment and growth of public libraries in Western Maharashtra from 1805 to 1921.

2. To formulate certain periods or eras of public library development and to identify the models of public libraries developed during this period with their distinguishing features.

3. To study the salient features of development, the changing character of the libraries with the causes and agents of change in respect of the following aspects.
   (a) Aims, objects and founders.
   (b) Members and their privileges.
   (c) Reading materials and use of the library.
   (d) Library finance - income and expenditure, grants and donations received.
   (e) Organization of the library.
   (f) Management of the library.
   (g) Progress made, achievements, factors responsible for continuity and stability of libraries.
   (h) Persons who led the library movement.

4. Impact of events in the field of Education, Printing and publications of newspapers, books and periodicals, social and political conditions in the country etc. on the development of library movement.

5. An assessment: Achivements, problems and prospects.

The Sources for Study: The Primary Sources

Records of Individual Libraries:

Information about the establishment and development of each library can be found in the records maintained and preserved by each library. This has been collected through correspondence and personal visits. It has been observed that many of the libraries, though existing at present, have not preserved their old records. Some of the libraries have maintained and preserved the old records of the libraries in some of the following forms.

1. Minutes of the meetings of the committee of management.
2. Account books - income and expenditure statements, balance sheets, daily cash registers, vouchers etc.
3. Correspondence.
4. Annual reports of the libraries.
5. Rules of the library - drafts, amendments, revisions.
6. List of members and life members.
7. Records regarding purchase of land and construction of library buildings, deeds of settlements.
8. Printed catalogues of libraries.
9. Other documents.
10. Historical accounts of various libraries have been compiled and published on the occasion of Silver Jubilee, Golden Jubilee, Diamond Jubilee, Centenary, Inaugural of library buildings etc. in the form of books or souvenirs. These accounts are based on the

records available in the library at that time. Memoirs of readers and leading persons connected with the libraries have also been included in these accounts. After writing such historical accounts, it is observed that some of the records and in few cases, all the records have been either destroyed or found untraceable at present. Such sources are therefore utilized in order to fill in the gaps.

Archival Records

The Secretariat Record Office of the Government of Maharashtra at Bombay, popularly known as the Bombay Archives founded by the British Government in 1821 possesses original records about the working of public libraries in the Bombay Presidency since 1821. These records have been preserved in the files/volumes in the General Department, Education Department and Political Department. In the General Department volumes, information about the libraries established at civil and military stations during 1821 and 1836 is available. These libraries had applied to the Government of Bombay for sanction of donations, publications and requested for exemption of postal charges. Correspondence regarding the establishment of the Bombay Native General Library and other libraries in Bombay is available. Correspondence of Captain French requesting the Government

of Bombay to establish Native libraries and further decision of the Government of Bombay in respect of foundation of Native General Libraries in 1850 are available in original. Applications from various Native General Libraries requesting the Government to donate government publications and sanction of grant for library building, etc. are available in original. Government resolutions passed from time to time in this respect are recorded in these volumes. The volumes of Education Department contain applications of libraries - for gratis publications, land and money for library buidling. In the files of both the departments, General and Education, records about the rules framed by the British Government in 1909 for registration of aided public libraries and action taken thereon are available in original. In the volumes of Political Department, information about the establishment and working of libraries in some of the Native States like Kolhapur, Sawantwadi, etc. is available.

Along with the applications of various libraries are attached the printed catalogues of books, rules of the library, reports of libraries and such other publications, many of which are not possessed by the libraries where these documents originated.

However, it is observed that some of the records for libraries under the heading 'publications' have been destroyed.

Documents published by the Government of Bombay

Reports of the Board of Education for the period from 1850 to 1855 have been consulted. These reports give detailed information about the establishment and working of native libraries during this period. In 1855 the Board of Education was converted into the Office of the Director of Public Instruction. Reports of the Director of Public Instruction (later known as Department of Public Instruction) of the Bombay Presidency for the period from 1855 to 1927 are consulted. These reports contain information about the condition of native libraries in the Bombay Presidency. Reports for the period from 1867 to 1873 give statistical information in respect of the number of members, number of books possessed and added, amount of subscription collected and the expenditure incurred on them, issue of books etc. Thereafter brief information about the number of libraries registered with the Director of Public Instruction for grant of publications is given with some occasional comments on the conditions of libraries.

Gazetteer of the Bombay Presidency compiled by the Government of Bombay and published during the period from 1877 to 1885 in 24 volumes contain districtwise information about the establishment and working of native libraries. These volumes have been consulted. The Imperial Gazetteer compiled during 1906 has also been consulted.

Newspapers, Magazines and Serials

Information about native libraries appeared in various Newspapers, Magazines and Serials (Annuals, Directories) has been consulted with a view to find out missing links. The Dnyanprakash (Poona) volumes for years 1855 - 1860 contain information about the working of native libraries at Poona, Sholapur, Nasik, Ratnagiri which is not available elsewhere. The Dnyanodaya (Bombay) volumes for years 1842 to 1920 contain information about establishment of libraries in Bombay and other places. Few volumes of the Bombay Courier, the Prabhakara (Bombay) are also consulted.

The files of the Kesari (Poona) for the years 1881 to 1921 contain useful information about the establishment and working of native libraries in Western Maharashtra. Detailed information about the Free Reading Rooms and Libraries established in Poona and the organization of a library conference in Poona in 1921 is available in these files. The Kesari has played an important role in the affairs of Maharashtra in particular. The Kesari promoted the cause of libraries in various ways and hence the information appearing in its columns is very valuable for the present study.

Besides these newspapers, magazines are also consulted. The Library Miscellany (Baroda), 1912 to 1918, contains information about the Travelling Libraries of the Bombay

Social Service League in detail. As this was the only magazine devoted to libraries, various libraries had sent their annual reports to this magazine which were summarised in this magazine. News about various activities appeared in this magazine. Comments of the Editor about the working of these libraries are thought provoking. The Magazines Sahitya Sahakara (Bombay) (1950 to 1976), Vachanalaya (Bombay) (1971 to 1978) are consulted as these volumes contain articles on the working and progress made by public libraries in the Bombay Presidency.

Most of the volumes of the Bombay Calendar and Almanac (The Bombay Calendar and Directory, The Times of India, Bombay Calender and Directory) published so far have been consulted. These volumes contain information about the libraries in the Bombay City. Information about the libraries established especially by Europeans at Poona, Mahabaleshwar and other hill stations is also given in these volumes.

Autobiographies and Travel Accounts of eminent Indians like G.N.Madgaonkar, Dadoba Pandurang, G.A.Joshi as well as of some Europeans like Maria Graham, J.H.Stocqueler are consulted in order to obtain and corraborate information about the working of the libraries and attitudes of the Indian people towards public libraries.

Besides these, following documents have been consulted.

1. Biographies of persons connected with the working of libraries.
2. Annual reports and histories of institutions concerned with the libfary movement.
3. Historical accounts in the field of education, printing and publishing of newspapers and periodicals.
4. Speeches made at the Maharashtra Library Conferences.
5. Other books, reference books, maps etc.

A thorough search has been made to collect documents from various libraries at Bombay, Poona, Kolhapur, the National Library, Calcutta and the British Library, London.

Oral Evidence

Old persons connected with the working of native libraries and persons involved in the public library movement were interviewed and information has been collected.

Some of the information related to this study was presented at the meetings of Bharat Itihaas Samshodhak Mandal, Poona in the form of papers.[32] In the discussion after the reading of the papers, additional information given by the participants was equall useful. Comments on these papers by eminent historians like M.M.D.V.Potdar have been found very useful for revising the contents of those papers.

Outline of the study

The study is presented in 9 chapters.

In Chapter One the nature and scope of the study has been explained and the sources for study are described.

In Chapter Two, a brief history of libraries established upto 1805 is given. All the libraries established during this period were manuscript libraries as the printing technology did not make any beginning in Maharashtra. Attempts for writing, copying, collection, preservation, lending and reading of manuscripts are described.

In Chapter Three covering the period 1805 to 1830, establishment, growth and working of the library of the Literary Society of Bombay and the Libraries established at various civil and military stations in the Bombay Presidency are described.

In Chapter Four, (a) establishment of the Bombay General Library in 1830 and (b) its impact on the admission of Indians at the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society have been discussed. Origin and development of the Ahmednager Native Library, the earliest Native Library and the Bombay Native General Library, the pioneer native library have been described. Efforts of Captain P.T.French, Acting Resident of Baroda, to establish Native Libraries and the impetus

given by the Board of Education in 1850 for the formation of native libraries have been narrated. Establishment and growth of native general libraries at district places and at Bombay City upto 1855 have been studied.

In Chapter Five, the establishment and growth of Native General Libraries from 1856 to 1881 have been traced. The progress made by these libraries upto 1881 has been presented with charts and statistical tables. The aspects of development, the changing character of the libraries and the beginning of Indianisation of libraries have been studied in greater detail. British policy towards native general libraries is explained. During this period, the scheme of registration of libraries with the Director of Public Instruction for receiving publications gratis was started.

In Chapter Six, the foundation and growth of libraries at Thana, Bombay and Poona, devoted entirely for the collection and preservation of reading materials in Marathi at one place for the use of scholars have been studied. Efforts of these libraries for the collection of Marathi books have been described. Contributions made by various Indians to the development of these libraries have been enumerated.

Chapter Seven enumerates the attempts made to form Free Reading Rooms and Libraries in Western Maharashtra with greater emphasis on the attempts made in Bombay and Poona. The holding of the first library conference in Poona in 1921 and

formation of Library Association in Maharashtra marks an important landmark in the history of the library movement in Western Maharashtra. These events have been discussed in detail.

In Chapter Eight, establishment and growth of native general libraries upto 1921 have been studied. Change in earlier British Policy towards public libraries from 1909 to 1921 and its impact on the working of native general libraries has been discussed in detail. Aspects of development and the changing character of the library leading to Indianisation of libfaries are also described. Factors which led to this change have been explained. Impact of the establishment of libraries of Marathi Books and Free Reading Rooms on the working of native general libraries has been discussed.

In the concluding chapter (Chapter Nine) important landmarks in the development of libraries have been enumerated. Brief account of the progress made by the libraries is given. The changing character of the libraries and the aspects of change have been reviewed. The factors responsible for the continuity and stability of libraries are studied. The contributions made by these libraries and their achievements are discussed. The deficiencies and the problems faced by these libraries are also considered.

In the Companion Volume, various appendices are given. In these appendices, statistical information collected from

various sources depicting the growth and development of libraries has been presented. It is supplemented by graphs, maps and photographs.

NOTES

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CHAPTER - 2

Libraries in Western Maharashtra upto 1805

Early Writing and Production of Books in Western Maharashtra

In order to trace the history of libraries in a particular geographical area, one must trace the history of writing, production and preservation of books in that region. Similarly it is also observed that every geographical region has a specific predominant language which is spoken by most of the people. Books written in that language form the major parts of most of the libraries in that region. So it is necessary to take into account the various developments that took place in the history of Marathi Literature which is the predominant language of Western Maharashtra.

Knowledge was preserved and handed over from generation to generation by recitation of the sacred books or knowledge. The person who was memorizing and reciting the sacred knowledge put in a precise and rhythmic form to aid the memory. He was almost a living, moving library. This is the ancient Indian tradition. Vedas, Puranas, Sutras and a number of such sacred works were preserved by memory. Thus the oral tradition of preservation of knowledge plays an important role in ancient India.

With the invention of script for writing, the knowledge was recorded on materials like bhurjapatras (birch-barks) palm leaves, inscriptions etc. Later on with the invention of paper, the activity of recording knowledge increased. So we find various manuscripts written in different scripts and languages in India on different types of writing suffaces compatible with the geographical environments.

The Research Institute and Library of Patan

Sanskrit was a major language in olden times in Maharashtra as in the other parts of the country. We, therefore come across a number of Sanskrit manuscripts on a variety of subjects. An attempt of establishment of a library of Sanskrit manuscripts can be traced to 12th century at Patan, about ten miles South of Chalisgaon, Jalgaon District.

The inscriptions on the stone tablet at Patan - The Patan Inscription[1] of the King Yadav Simghana of Devagiri (c. 1200-1247) mentions that there existed a Research Institute and a Library[2] established by the learned Indian mathematician and astronomer Bhaskaracharya (born 1114, died 1192-93). He had established this library of palm-leaf manuscripts with a small collection of books on Bhurja-patras (Birch-bark). This library was preserved and maintained by Lakshmidhara (Bhaskara's son) and Changadeva (Bhaskara's grandson). Students of Bhaskaracharya, coming from distant

parts of the country in order to study mathematics, astronomy, astrology and other branches of knowledge used this library.

The library possessed most of the texts of the Shruti-Smriti Puranas[3]. All the works written by Bhaskaracharya, the reference texts that were necessary for instruction in Mathematics, Astronomy, Jyotisha, and also works by Buddhist and Jaina scholars were available in this library. Besides these works, works on mechanics, the epics like the Mahabharata, treatises on poetics and poetic meters, grammar, medicine, and texts on Kumarila and his pupil in the Patan inscription were available in this library.

Encouragement and support to scholarship was considered a laudable object and almost a religious duty by the rulers of ancient and medieval India. The Nikumbhas (Feudatories of Yadava, owing allegiance to Simghana) extended generous patronage to Changadeva and his research institute. (Patan Inscription, Verses 23, 24, 54).

It is interesting to note that the citizens were made to contribute in kind, according to their might towards the maintenance and upkeep of this institution.

Bhaskara had a workshop or room for practicals and a scriptorium where extensive writing work was done and where his works were copied by visiting scholars. This scriptorium was well-stocked with slats[4] of palm leaf and writing materials.

Production of books upto 12th century A.D.

During the Yadava period (9th to 13th century) it is observed that considerable number of books were written in Sanskrit language. Hemadri[5], the well known author of this period, deserves special consideration. His famous work is the Chaturvarga Chintamani[6]. It is essentially an encyclopedia. The chapter on 'Danakhanda' deals with the importance of books and donations of books to worthy persons.

Hemadri was the father of the Modi script which was profusely used in Maharashtra for political and economic transactions till the nineteenth century.

Writing of Books in the Marathi language

Marathi is the major language of the people of Maharashtra. However, hardly do we find any books in Marathi upto the 12th century A.D. Important classic works in Marathi were written in the 13th century. Mukundaraja's Vivekasindhu was written in 1188 and Jnaneshwari was written in 1290. Later on a number of books have been written in Marathi language. The Marathi language was popularised by the saint poets of Maharashtra Muktabai (1279-1297), Namadeo (1270-1350), Eknath (1533?-1599), Tukarama (1608-1649), Ramadasa (1608-1682), Niloba (1658 died).

Libraries in Western Maharashtra therefore started developing with the writing and production of books in Marathi.

Books were in manuscript form. They were written on paper. Black ink was used for writing. As the books were handwritten, more time was required to write a book. It was preserved in red cloth. Books were protected by wooden planks on both sides of the manuscript.

As learning was restricted to the privileged few (Shastris, Pandits, Teachers, Scholars and Writers), books were preserved, produced and used by these people only.

Saint Ramadasa and Libraries

Saint Ramadasa (1608-1682) may be treated as an outstanding promoter in the field of production and preservation of books. He established more than 1100 Maths all over India. In these Maths, manuscripts of various works were collected. Copying of manuscripts was a daily routine work in these Maths.[7] Therefore the number of manuscripts in these Maths increased considerably.

These manuscripts were preserved in the chief Maths at Chaphal and the Math at Bid (Marathwada region) of Giridhara. Mss were preserved in the Math of Bhimaswami at Tanjore, Math of Dinakara at Tisgaon, Math of Kalyanaswami at Dongaon, and Maths at various other places.

Most of the MSS in these Maths have been collected by Shri Shankar Shrikrishna Deo and preserved now at the Sri Samartha Vagdevata Mandir at Dhulia[8].

Ramadasa has also given clearcut instructions regarding the use of paper, ink, writing material, calligraphy, for writing the manuscripts and copying of manuscripts in his classic work 'Dasabodha'[9]. He pleads for good and bold handwriting, use of durable black ink, glazed and durable paper. He also gave detailed instructions about the writing material to be used. Regarding preservation of Mss, he advises the use of wooden planks and red cloth. He also says that the cover be embroidered.

Libraries of the Peshwas - 18th and 19th century A.D.

Development of libraries seemed to have received an impetus during the regime of the Peshwas. Chhatrapati Shahu (1682-1749) had various departments (Karkhanas or Shala's) for his administration. One of the departments was a Pustakashala[10]. Govindpant Apte was at one time in charge of that Department[11].

Copying of Books

All books were in manuscript form. Therefore one had to copy the whole book in order to preserve the book for his use. Copying of books was therefore an important activity. A number of instances of copying books can be found in the historical records such as the Pune Archives.

In 1750, one Antaji Narayan Phadnis was employed to copy out 'Padmapurana'. It appears that a careful account

was maintained about the number of pages and chapters etc. assigned for copying. It was done in suitable instalments[12]. In a letter addressed to Bhausaheb, reference is made to the work of preparation of some copies of the manuscript of the 'Ramayana' which was secured from Poona[13]. In 1764, Raghunathrao Bajirao had employed at Poona three scribes for the work of copying. In a letter to Nana Phadnis, Raghunathrao requested him to make necessary writing materials - paper, ink etc. available to the three scribes and one clerk and also suggested that suitable lodging and boarding arrangements for the scribes be made in the palace (Shaniwar Wada) itself[14].

It appears that a regular establishment was maintained at Anandavalli (Dist. Nasik) for copying old books. According to the diary of Raghunathrao for the year 1765-66, some details of the work are available. Three scribes were engaged and they were paid Rs. 31/- in all, per month. (Jagannath Bhat Rs. 21/-, Sadashiv Krishna Ambekar Rs.5/- and Keso Mahadeo Rs.5/-). They were supplied with manuscripts for copying, sufficient writing material like paper, ink etc. wooden boards, and cover paper required for firm binding and preservation of pages copied out. Books were preserved at Trimbakeshwar (Dist. Nasik) and provision of 1/8 seer oil per day was made for lighting in the library[15].

Contract for copying

Sometimes the work of copying was made on contract basis as in the case of 'Yogavasishtha' in 1767. It was agreed that the Brahmin engaged for this work was to be paid Rs.400/- in all, for the copy of 'Yogavasishtha' along with its commentary. This contract was made by Raghunathrao[16]. An entry of a similar type in the year 1772 denotes that one Laxman Narayan Vaidya was paid Rs. 67/- for copying out 13,433 verses from the Aranyakanda and Ayodhakanda of the Ramayana[17]. In 1787, Govind Krishna Godbole, under orders from Anandibai, wrote to Nana Phadnis, to arrange to send to her a copy of the Mahabharata which was previously got revised by the Peshwa and contained the correct text, after consulting many copies. The idea of Anandibai was to get the same read in full and also to have it copied for her use in future[18]. In the same year Anandibai got one more letter written to Nana Phadnis through Keso Mahadeo asking for a copy each of the 'Mahabharata' and the 'Bhagawata' with a promise to return them after they were copied[19].

The bakhars were copied for the purpose of improving handwriting as well as for the instruction of the younger generation. The life of Shivaji was compiled by Krishnaji Anant Sabhasad at the instance of Rajaram in 1697. Malhar Ramrao Chitnis wrote a number of bakhars in the early 19th century dealing with the lives of Chhatrapatis[20].

Libraries

Raghunathrao had two libraries of his own, one at Anandawalli and the other at Trimbakeshwar (Dist. Nasik) in 1767[21]. A list was made in 1784 of the books in the possession of Sagunabai, (died 1783) wife of Janardanpant Bajirao. Sagunabai who became widow at the age of ten, seems to have devoted her later life in reading and studying epics and philosophy, if the long list of manuscripts in her possession at the time of her death could be taken as an indication of her real tastes[22].

Peshwas maintained a library at the Shaniwarwada (Pune). Edward Scott Waring visited the Peshwas and stated that he saw the book 'Vrateraja' written by Pandit Vishwanath Bhat of Kashi (Benares) in the private library of the Peshwas. He also saw a 'Rajakosha' in that library[23].

The Mackenzie collection preserved at the Govt. Oriental Manuscripts library, Madras[24], contains a large number of Marathi MSS which Mackenzie[25] collected from Maharashtra.

Procurement of books from outside places

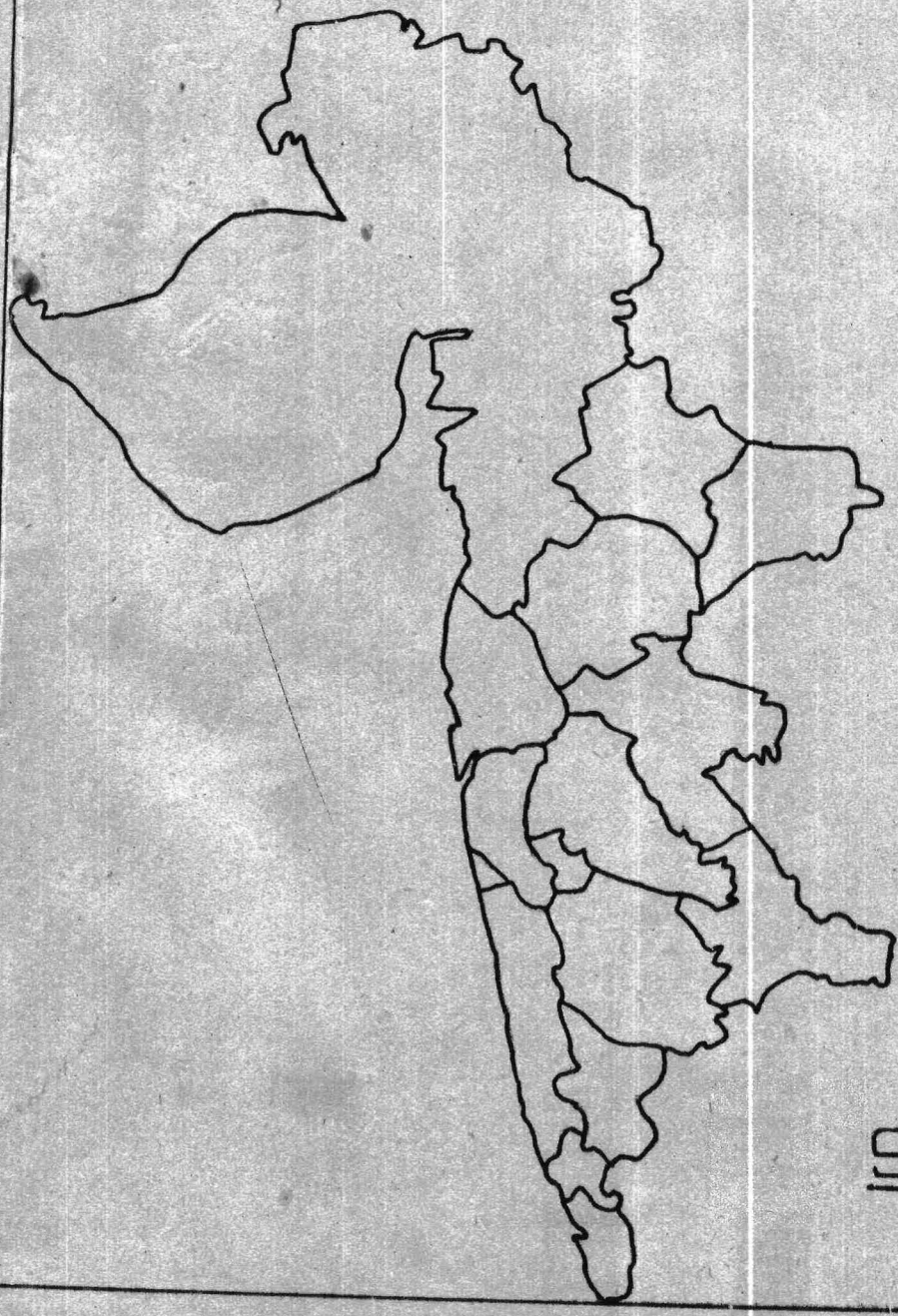
As books were produced at different places,attempts were made to procure them from various places, either for copying, or for reading or for preservation.

In 1767 receipt of the manuscript of 'Ganapati Sahasranama' (from Padmapurana) written by one Mor Joshi

was acknowledged. The manuscript was sent by Nana Phadnis to Peshwa[26]. In one communication, Mahadji Shinde wrote to Nana Phadnis to send among other things certain books which were then badly needed by Raghunathrao[27]. An attempt was made by Saraswatibai of Miraj during her pilgrimage to Kashi in 1784 to get a copy of 'Jayasinhakalpataru' for Balasaheb of Miraj. But having failed in the attempt, she made arrangements to have it copied out at Gaya (Bihar) through a scribe who was supplied with a manuscript and the necessary writing material[28]. In 1747, a copy of the 'Bhagawata' was purchased for the Peshwa from Narasi Bhat Gujarathi of Ahmedabad for Rupees four hundred[29]. In the same year, 35 religious books (manuscripts) were received in Poona through the mediation of Rana Jagatsing of Udepur. These manuscripts were handed over to Sadashiv Mahadeo who was working under the patronage of Malharrao Holkar. The list of books gives total number of pages of each manuscript along with the description about the wooden planks, covers etc.[30].

Again in 1755-56, from the same place i.e. Udepur, fifteen books were purchased for the Peshwa by one Vishnu Mahadeo. The number of verses contained in each book are counted and mentioned in the list. Total number of verses of the fifteen books amount to two lakh twelve thousand and five hundred[31]. It appears that Raghunathrao was particularly fond of books. He collected them from several places and in good numbers. A fairly big lot of books was purchased in 1754-55[32].

HISTORY OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY MOVEMENT IN WESTERN MAHARASHTRA 1805-1921



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In one communication, Pilaji Jadhavrao wrote to Peshwa Bajirao I about the despatch of three Kandas (Chapters) - Sundarkanda, Yuddhakanda, Uttarakanda of the Ramayana to him[33]. In 1759, Govindpant Barve was asked by the Peshwa to send him a copy of a drama written by Jagannath Kavi about the sports - 'Kreeda' of God Shankara and God Vishnu along with its commentary[34].

Rates of payment for copying Manuscripts

Copying rates were settled according to the type of work to be copied and the number of verses to be copied. Manuscripts are described in terms of pages and verses. For instance, Madhvasiddhanta Kaumudi was copied at the rate of Rs.1-14-0 for 1000 verses, Prabodhasudhakara at Rs. 2/-, Vijnaneswara at Rs. 2-8-0, Prapanchasara at Rs. 3/- and Rudrapaddhati at Rs.4/- per thousand verses[35].

Manuscripts of books were on sale with the scribes and persons interested in them could purchase them. Prices of manuscripts were charged according to their value and bulk (number of pages or verses). The price of Bhagvadgita in 1750 was Rupees three, while the manuscripts of Bharata, Bhagavata and Prapanchasara were sold for Rs.361/-, Rs.36/- and Rs.25/- respectively[35]. But the three classical works like Bharata Champu, Mudrarakshasa Chhayagrantha and Shakuntala could be purchased together for Rupees ten only[37].

The Copyists

The copyists seem to be penmen from Gujarat, as we come across such names as Bhavanishankara Bhat Gujarati Lekhaka, Shankara Gujarathi, Govinda Bhat Gujarathi, etc. The writer-class in Gujarat and Kathiawad, must have been a trained one in transcribing beautifully and faithfully the Jain mss., well preserved in temples and maths. Our Marathi Sastris and Priests could not write even legibly and correctly, for they were trained only in oral repetition unlike the Karkoons (clerks) whose profession required a good and fast writing in Modi script. Letters of the Sastris and Bhats, seen in old records are necessarily in Balbodh script and are full of orthographical mistakes. On the other hand, the clerical class Brahmans and Kayasthas - always wrote in Modi, the script. It seems, therefore that Gujarathi or Telangi scribes were in great demand for such copying work[38].

Editing of Books

Manuscripts were copied by different persons at different places at different times. While copying it is observed that some changes are made by the scribe, sometimes giving altogether different meaning to the original. Therefore all the available different manuscripts of the same book were compared with a view to preparing a correct and revised version of the same for use in future. The Mahabharata to which Govind Krishna referred on behalf of Anandibai in 1787 was a revised version[39].

Micro Manuscripts and Mss on silk Cloth

Manuscripts of sacred works as Bhagvadgita, Bhagavata, Sapta-shati are sometimes found written in smallest handwriting (even 1/40 of inch), necessarily requiring a microscope for making out what they contained. Such micro-mss have been brought from elsewhere, and some were cased in lockets or amulets to be worn on body to safeguard from spirits. Two such mss were possessed by Sagunabai[40].

As paper was not considered pure in religious observances, some high placed and widely worshipped saints such as Moraya Gosavi of Chinchwad, (near Pune) got specially woven silk pothi cloth and ritual text or some Purana was written smoothly on this in pure ink, prepared with ghee instead of water[41].

The lending of books

Books were rare and costly and therefore it was not possible to possess all the books one required. Books were therefore brought on loan for reading purpose from those who possessed them.

For instance Sambhaji Jadhav had lent the manuscript of the 'Adiparva' to Radhabai Nanasaheb-Peshwa's grandmother. He had also promised the lady to send more books whenever she needed[42]. In 1758, Naro Shankar from Nasik reported the position about the book 'Brahmavaivartapurana' to the Peshwa. He could trace only a portion of the book, but promised the

Peshwa that he could find out about the remaining portion from a certain Brahmin at Trimbakeshwar[43]. Raghunathrao while in camp needed some books. They were supplied to him by Balaji Govind Modak along with its list. Further he reports that books were also sent to Bhausaheb[44]. Peshwa Nanasaheb from an army camp asked for an annotated commentary on 'Geeta' by Waman Pandit. It was lent to him by Antaji Narayan from his stock at Pune. This book was preserved in the Jamdarkhana[45]. In 1750, Sadashivraobhau wrote from a camp to Baburao Ram Phadnis to despatch the 'Viratparva' of Mahabharata and some other books (Jyotirnidha, Narayan Bhakti, Harivamsha and Vidnyaneshwara). The communication gives, in detail, the possible whereabouts of the books wanted by Sadashivraobhau[46].

It may further be observed that portions of books or even some pages were lent out for reading. For example, 30 pages of Harivamsha and one Adhayaya of Vidnyaneshwara were lent to a person[47]. In 1787, Govind Krishna Godbole wrote from Anandavalli to Nana Phadnis to send the copy of the 'Mahabharata' which was revised according to the texts, for Anandibai[48]. A communication from Krishnaji Janardan of Kopargaon to Nana Phadnis at Pune of the year 1788 refers to some books - Karmavipaka and Yogavasistha as required by Anandibai and to the attempts made to get them from Pune[49].

39

Loss of Books in Transit

Since the number of books was very limited, they were lent by one person to another and thus remained in circulation for a long time. This sometimes resulted in the loss of books to the owner.

There is a communication addressed to the Peshwa, in reply to his querry regarding the non-return of the copy of 'Vedabhashya'. The writer explains that the copy of Vedabhashya could not be traced as it was circulated among several persons and further that he was not responsible for it[50]. This is also evident from the fact that in a number of manuscripts found during the last century, some portions of which are found missing.

Stock Taking

Books were rare, however they were circulated among a number of persons. Some were lost or in some cases, there was a possibility of loss of some pages. It was therefore necessary to take stock of books. In 1763, Naro Appaji was asked to take a stock of the books belonging to the Peshwa's library and to make a detailed report about books found missing from the library. He is further asked specifically to report about 'Mahabharata' written on yellow paper[51].

Preservation of books

Books were a precious possession, and the owners preserved them very carefully. In 1771, Peshwa Madhavrao I advised Narayanrao to arrange for safe custody of books[52]. Books and manuscripts were well preserved. The wooden planks to be put below and at the top of pothi are sometimes beautifully carved and painted. So also covers in which mss were well bound had been made of brocade (Kinakhab), Tapta, Kharava, Gajani or some rich cloth with a similar lace[53].

A detailed account of wooden planks with description of covers used is given while sending the books from Udepur[54]. Raghunathrao had made special provision for supply of wooden planks required for the whole year to the scribes at Anandavalli[55].

Reading of books

It seems from the historical correspondence that the Peshwas, Sardars and Women in Peshwa's family used to engage Puranika or Brahmins for reading books to them. This practice seems to be prominent among women.

The Brahmins employed for reading were paid Dakshina both at the start and after the completion of reading of a particular work. Amounts of Rs. 1 As 2 Pai 1 and Rs 1/- were paid at the start of reading Dronaparva and Sauptikaparva

respectively. Similarly an amount of Rs. 1 Pai 3 and Rs. 1/- was paid at the completion of reading of Matsyapurana and Dronaparva[56], respectively.

This activity was most popular in Chaturmasa i.e. four months from Ashadha to Kartika of the Hindu Calendar equivalent roughly to July-October period of the Christian Calendar.

Libraries of Individuals and Families

Manuscripts were collected by old Shastri families in several places like Wai, Trimbak, Puntamb, Toke, Belapur, Nevase etc. They were collected by individuals like Puranika, Pandits as these were required for their profession.

Attempts have been made in past to collect such material by the institutions like the Deccan College, Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, Bharata Itihasa Samshodhak Mandal, The Anandashram, Pune, The Prajna Pathashala, Wai.

Shri V.K.Rajwade and Shri Shankar Shrikrishna Deo at Dhulia, collected a number of mss from such individuals and families in the 20th century.

Very few chiefs and sardars in Maharashtra maintained a special library section as Pothikhana, Pothisala, but a small room with shelf-arrangement was generally allotted for this purpose. These mss. neatly shelved were worshipped at the time of Sarasvati Pujana or Dasara in Nava-ratra holidays and on

these occassions they were brushed and embodied with germicide preservatives such as tobacco, haratala (sulphuret of arsenic pigment), vekhanda (Orris-root), Chandana (Sandal-wood) etc.

Parasnis or Persian writers' families naturally took care of Persian mss and English and Portuguese knowing people (Angale in Goa territory) looked after the European books and papers. A list of more than sixty Persian mss. are in possession of one Krishna Rao Bapuji Parasnis. Jahangirnama, Alamgiri, Divan Anvari, Kalandar nama, Amirkhusru, Mirat Sikandari are some of the valuable historical works found in these lists.[57]

Marathi Libraries outside Maharashtra

The Library of Jhansi

Some of the Maratha sardars were ahead of their times in furnishing their libraries with even European books. For instance, Raghunathrao Hari Nevalkar, the Subhedar of Jhansi from 1770 to 1794, had even then realised the European superiority in arts and sciences over his countrymen and was very desirous of gaining knowledge of these. Mr. William Hunter, an European visitor to his place gives a casual description of his library in the following words[58].

> "He showed us several English books, among which was the second edition of the Encyclopedia Britannica. Of this he had got all the plates neatly copied by

> artists of his own. To get at the stores of science which these volumes contain, he had, even at that advanced period of life, formed the project of studying the English language. He expressed great anxiety to procure a teacher, or any book that could facilitate his pursuit and was highly gratified by Lieutenant M'Pherson's presenting him with a copy of Gilchrist's Dictionary".

This wonderful enterpriser had also an electrical machine made locally under his directions. At the same time, he was very religious minded and ended his life, when pestered with some incureble disease by drowning himself in the Ganges at Benares.

Shri Vishnubhat Godse, Varsaikar, while on tour of North India during the War of 1857 was at Jhansi and he wrote an account of his tour. In his account, he describes the plight of the library at Jhansi in the following words[59].

> "The library of Jhansi was managed neatly and it contained a number of books and mss. It contained books on Vedas, Commentaries on Vedas, Sutras with commentary, Smriti, Puranas and books on Astronomy. Books were collected from distant places by sending scribes for copying. Books were also brought on loan from Benares. The books were preserved with fine covers and wooden planks of Shisavi wood. All these books were destroyed by the British soldiers".

Saraswati Mahal Library at Tanjavur

Saraswati Mahal Library at Tanjavur, Tamilnadu State,

collection in this library is built up due to continuous efforts by the Kings of Tanjavur, for centuries together (from 15th century to 19th century). Especially Sharafoji (Second) (1798-1832) strengthened the collection in this library during his regime. A number of Marathi manuscripts were preserved at the Saraswati Mahal Library, Tanjavur[61].

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27. SPD 32-40.

28. KHARE VII 3789, 3804.

29. SPD 45-16.

30. VAD II 320-321.

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32. SPD 22-151, 154, 155, 156, 158, 160.

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43. SPD 18-79.

44. SPD 18-80.

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46. SPD 18-84.

47. Ibid.

48. SPD 4-16.

49. SPD 4-41.

50. SPD 9-68.

51. SPD 32-39.

52. IS V(2) p 20.

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Manakapade sindurasvarna
Patya kulape japane
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CHAPTER - 3

Beginning of the Library Movement in Western Maharashtra 1805 - 1830

Rise of the British Power in Western Maharashtra[1]

The East India Company established in 1600 by a Charter, had its relations with the Western Maharashtra, through the Western Coast, from the beginning of the 17th century onwards. But the acquisition of Bombay Island by the Company in 1668 laid the foundation of British power in Western Maharashtra. The Company obtained the Bombay Island from Charles II, the Stuart King of England at a nominal rent of £ 10 per annum. Charles II had received it from the Portuguese by way of Dowry for his marriage with the Porguguese princess. The British were not quite happy at Surat, which was their major Headquarters on the West Coast from the beginning due to the policies of the Mughals. We, therefore, find an exodus of the merchants' communities from Surat, including the English who came and settled down at Bombay by about 1683.

Between 1661 and 1683, the Company obtained several charters by which it was changed from a trading body into a territorial power.

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Gerald Aungier 1669-77, the Governor of Bombay, tried to strengthen the position of Bombay in several ways from 1669. Bombay was developed into a good harbour. The settlements in Bombay were fortified and armies were maintained for their defence and trade.

The Marathas and the English

In 1739 the English concluded a treaty with the Marathas and obtained from the Peshwa a grant of free trade throughout his dominion.

The major power with which the British had to fight for their commercial expansion was the Marathas. The internal feuds among the Marathas paved the way for strengthening the British power in Western Maharashtra. In the first Anglo-Maratha War, the Marathas had won a victory over the British, but the treaty of Salbye which followed it (1781) did not prove to be a complete triumph of the Marathas. By the treaty of Bassein (1802-3), Bajirao II practically mortgaged the Maratha power with the British. The Marathas in their own land became a subsidiary power. The final blow to the Maratha power was given by Mountstuart Elphinstone, and Maharashtra was politically transferred to the British.

The social policies adopted by the British in the subsequent years brought about many social changes in its wake. The British promoted education, and thereby the spread of

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knowledge among the people of Maharashtra. Library movement was one of the major instruments for the spread of knowledge.

Literary Society of Bombay established

The first step in the direction of the library movement was taken in 1804 with the foundation of the Literary Society. On 26th November 1804[2], 17 Europeans of Bombay[3] met at the Government House, Parel, and formed themselves into the 'Literary Society of Bombay' for the purpose of 'promoting useful knowledge, particularly such as is more immediately connected with India'.

Sir James Mackintosh[4] was chosen to be its first President and William Erskine[5] as the Secretary of the Society.

In the meanwhile, the Britishers had gained supremacy and captured various regions of India. They therefore studied history, literature etc. of India. They thought this knowledge should be useful to control the newly conquered people and to strengthen their rule. It seems that the Britishers believed that if one wants to govern a people, one must know the people and the people could be known only through their religion, history, literature, traditions etc.

Similar attempt in Bengal

It must be mentioned that when the Bengal region was conquered by the East India Company, the Britishers had to

face a similar situation. As the subjects belonged to Hindu and Muslim religions, the rulers had to know the customs, manners and laws prevalent among the people of Bengal. The laws of the Hindus were in Sanskrit language and the laws of the Muslims were in Persian/Urdu language. Britishers therefore, had to establish Benares Sanskrit College and Calcutta Madrassa with the object to train Indian Assistants to English Judges in order to explain the principles of Hindu and Muslim laws, respectively.

Sir William Jones[6], distinguished Scholar and Linguist founded in 1784, the "Asiatic Society of Bengal', the purpose of which was the 'Enquiry into the History and Antiquities, arts, sciences and literature of Asia'.[7] In this Society, efforts were made to know and understand various aspects of life in India and Bengal in particular. The ultimate object of such studies was to know the people whom the British were to govern for a long time.

The Foundation of the Library

On 31st December 1804, the Governor in Council at Bombay Mr. Jonathan Duncan presented the Society with two copies of 'Hunter's Essay on the diseases, or Lascars' as a contribution towards the formation of a library of the Literary Society of Bombay[8] and thus the idea of establishment of a library of the Literary Society of Bombay got accelerated.

However the purchasing activity of the library was undertaken at its fourth meeting held on 25th February 1805 with a proposal to purchase the Medical and Literary Library of Bombay at the cost of Rs. 6565-3-2. Medical and Literary library had been started in 1789 by Dr. Scott of medical profession[9]. It was in a bad condition in 1805 owing to lack of supervision and non-collection of subscription from members with the result that it owed a large amount of Rs.6775/- to Scott besides interest on this amount.

The Society in taking over this library appointed a Committee of three of its members including the Secretary and authorised this Committee 'to call in all the books and to shut up the library for such time as may seem to them necessary' with a view to taking stock of the number of books, and the expenses necessary for discharging the incumbrances now affecting the library.

The Report of the Committee submitted on 27 May 1805 showed that only a few books were missing, according to the last printed catalogue and recommended to open the library as soon as a proper purvee (Prabhu clerk) and a sepoy were engaged.

A Committee to take charge of the concerns of the library was appointed with power to give instructions to persons in the immediate charge of it as from time to time may deem necessary. By 24 Nov 1806 an amount of Rs.6565-3-2

From the records, it is observed that permission of the Government was obtained to raise these funds by floating a lottery and M/S Forbes and Co. were requested to execute the scheme. But this scheme was not executed by them. Proposal was, therefore, made to sell this privilege of the Society to a merchant but nothing is known about its implementation.

Purchase of reading materials for the library

Very few books were purchased newly since the purchase of Medical and Literary Library of Dr.Scott. The President, therefore, on 28 May 1810, proposed to spend some amount from the balance of Rs.15000/- with the Society, for purchase of books as follows:

₹	1100	2000 or 3000 volumes - books in England (Good foundation for the library)
₹	100	New publications in France and England. 200 volumes.
₹	44	Newspapers, reviews, etc. Journals - Literary and scientific. This amount of subscription was allocated as follows:

₹ 18-4-0	Daily London Newspaper.
₹ 2-0-0	Reviews (quarterly)
₹ 2-8-0	Reviews (monthly)
₹ 3-0-0	Monthly magazines
₹ 3-0-0	Philosophical and medical journals.
₹ 15-0-0	Politics, Science, literature, journal (England) Politics, Science, literature journals (France)

This proposal was accepted and Sir James Mackintosh was requested to take measures for carrying out this resolution into effect and send out a collection of standard books best

was paid to Dr.Scott, owner of Medical and Literary Library[10]. One clerk and a sepoy were appointed and the working of the library was started thereafter.

The history of this library can be divided into the following periods.

1. 1805-1830 From foundation to shifting of the Society and its library to the newly built rooms at the Town Hall with change of name to Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society Library.
2. 1830-1855 Admission of Indians to the Society.
3. 1856-1880 Period of Indianisation.
4. 1881-1920 Period of progress.

Growth of the Library: 1805-1813.

Membership

All the members of the Literary Society of Bombay were eligible to make use of the library. Admission of members was governed by the following rule[11]

> "Persons wishing to become members shall be proposed by one member and seconded by another, at one meeting of the Society and balloted for at the next meeting, one black ball in Ten, of the members present excluding".

In order to admit only those persons who may be suitable for admission, the technique of black ball was introduced.

New entrant's application proposed by one member and seconded by another member is kept in the office of the library. Other members may approve the admission of the new entrant by signing over the application. Just near the application form, a box with about 16 holes is kept. White and black balls are kept near the box. One who approves the admission puts a white ball in the hole of the box and signs over the application. But if some member thinks that the applicant is not suitable for admission, he puts a black ball in the hole of the box without disclosing his identity i.e. if a black ball is found in the box this means that the person should not be admitted as member. No record is kept of persons who put black balls or of persons who were rejected in this way.

The annual contribution of each member was sixty Rupees in the beginning which was raised to one hundred Rupees on 27th May 1805 to be paid by persons who were in Bombay Presidency or were residing at Bombay during the year. From the subscriptions received, the cost of the Medical and Literary Library was paid. The Society thereafter required a building for accommodating the collection and for holding its meetings. The Society had other schemes such as the undertaking the experiments in Physics and Chemistry. The President, Sir James Mackintosh, therefore, approached the Government for permission "to raise by lottery a sum of money for the purpose of the establishment of a Public Library and building commodious apartments for its reception

and for the meetings of the Society as these projects will require a sum much more considereble than it can be convenient to the members of the Society to contribute".[12] The Bombay Government gave sanction for raising funds by lottery for these purposes. Through one of the sanctioned lotteries, it has been stated, the Society raised a sum, which after payment of debts, amounted to Rs.16000. This is evident from the first balanced sheet of the Society for the period 1804 to 1808 (Appendix No. 1).

A Plan for Development

The President James Mackintosh laid before the meeting on 25th May 1807 a plan for the improvement of the library and for adding to it a Philosophical Apparatus and a Reading Room accompanied by an estimate of the expenses of the necessary building and of the annual expenditure. The distribution proposed of the collections shows the sweep of the President's idea for the Society.

1.	A Hall for library and meeting and a museum for objects of Natural History Apparatus and Ground to be purchased		Rs. 40000.00
2.	New Books		Rs. 16000.00
3.	Apparatus of Natural Philosophy and Chemistry		Rs. 4000.00
4.	Provision for yielding an annual income of Rs.4000		Rs. 40000.00
	For purchase of most esteemed literary and political journals of England	Rs. 1000	
	For Purchase of books	Rs. 2000	
	For miscellaneous expenses of Library and Society	Rs. 1000	
		Rs. 4000	

The library would thus be entirely independent of caprice or negligence in the payment of subscriptions by individuals.

Regarding this plan, Sir James Mackintosh said

"That such an establishment may be not only agreeable to those whose pursuits are chiefly literary but that it may also be subservient to the rational curiosity of liberal amusement of the whole community seems the first object to be desired not only on its own account but as the most effectual means of diffusing knowledge and spreading a taste for literature".

Regarding the importance of public libraries, he says

"These institutions induce many to read and think, who would otherwise be deterred from all serious employment by difficulty of access to sources of information. I wish it to be a foundation as wide as to admit the whole community, if they desire it and not limited to this or any other select body. Let the advantage belong to the community, the credit to the Society".

Then he lays down his scheme for development which has been quoted in the earlier paragraphs. He concludes his plan in the following words

"I own I am ambitious that in some manner or other we should leave some monument behind us of our wish to contribute to the amusement and improvement of the community of this Island as it remains a part of the British Empire".

From the above remarks, it seems that he desired that all the people should benefit from this library. In other words he anticipated one of Dr.Ranganathan's Five Laws of Library Science: "Books for All".

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fitted to the formation of a public library. The first consignment of books in five boxes worth ₹ 1195-11-0 was received in July 1812 from M/s Longman, Hurst, Rees, Orme and Brown[13]. It contained 175 titles in 500 volumes including encyclopedia, dictionaries, sets of some magazines and reviews in Philosophy, Medicine, Literature and other popular publications including newspapers both in English and French. In addition to this collection, Indian newspapers like Madras Gazette,[14] Bengal Harkaru[15] and Two Bombay newspapers[16] were taken for the Society's reading room in 1812.

In order to enhance the utility of the library, a new class of 'Subscriber' was created on 21st September 1811 on the recommendation of Sir James Mackintosh, the President. Any gentleman proposed by two members was admitted to the full use of the library and reading room on payment of annual subscription of Rs.100 by becoming a subscriber.

As new books were purchased, a committee for reporting on the state of library and for drawing up a set of regulations for its management and for getting a catalogue of books made and printed, was appointed on 28 July 1812.

The Committee drafted Rules for the Regulations of the library, which were passed on 27 October 1812. Following are the important rules.

Membership

1. Every member of the society and subscriber to the library shall pay 100 Rupees annually if residing in the Island of Bombay or Calcutta

2. Every member of the Society not being in Bombay or Salsette but residing within the dependencies of the Bombay Government shall pay Rs.30/- annually.

Issue of Books and periodicals

1. Every periodical publication or new book that shall be added to the library must be for one month on the library table before it can be taken out.

2. No book, pamphlet or paper belonging to the Society shall be carried out of the Islands of Bombay or Salsette.

3. Members or subscribers may keep for a space (period) not exceeding one month.

4. No book shall be given out by the Librarian unless the member or subscriber requiring it shall sign an entry in the receipt book or send a receipt signed by himself.

5. Books lost or damaged shall be charged at the price specified in the catalogue, or in case of doubt, the sum fixed by the Library Committee.

6. A catalogue of books belonging to the library, with prices, be made and signed by the Library Committee.

Stock taking

1. All the books be returned to the library before 1st January each year, be compared with the catalogue and again be given on the 10th day of January.

Regarding the state of the library, the Committee reported that the library sustained very great loss in consequence of many valuable books not having been returned in general from death of member or having left the Presidency

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or gone to Europe. The Committee therefore suggested to have 'One hundred Rupees' deposit from members and subscribers. It is observed that the suggestion was not implemented and the deposit was not taken from members and subscribers.

Growth of the Library: 1813 - 1830

Books and periodicals. The library started working in full swing from 1813. Additions of new publications were made each year for which an amount of ₹ 200 was sent annually to England. According to the catalogue printed in 1817[17], the library contained 1412 works including those then expected from England and a collection of books on Oriental literature presented to the Society by Government of Bombay in 1812. A catalogue of books possessed by the library was printed, it seems, in 1834[18], As both these catalogues are not possessed at present by any library in India and abroad, the number of books possessed by the library at the end of 1830 along with its subjectwise breakup cannot be given.

The library received gifts of books from the Government of Bombay from time to time. Valuable books numbering about 200 were presented by Governor Mounstuart Elphinstone in 1820[19] which included rare books in the Italian and English languages, maps, charts of the 16th and 17th century[20], (list of important MSS given in Appendix 2) including the valuable manuscript of Dante's Divina Commedia on Vellum of 14th century[21].

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In 1826[22], the Society received valuable books bequethed to the Court of Directors by late Dr. John Taylor[23] and copies of manuscripts collected by William Miles,[24] Political Agent at Palanpur in Gujarat. These included 12 rumals[25] (bundles) containing about 190 Sanskrit manuscripts.

Selection and purchase of reading materials

In 1812, Sir James Mackintosh was requested to select books for the library in England and to order annually the principal new publications as they appeared, on a scale suited to the funds of the Society. Some of the books selected by Sir James Mackintosh in 1812 were not approved by the Library Committee and therefore were sold by auction[26]. Some members proposed to have a suggestion book kept in the library which was accepted on 31 August 1813 and the books suggested by members were ordered from England. In 1820[27], selection of books was done by the Library Committee and books were ordered from England. In this way the mode of selection of books was changed and books of the choice of the members were selected. Decisions regarding subscriptions to new periodicals or discontinuance of periodicals were taken by vote at the annual meeting of the Society.

Books and periodicals in English and a few in European languages were ordered from the booksellers, Longman and Co. selected by Sir James Mackintosh for this purpose. These publications were sent by seamail which took about 4 to 5 month's to reach Bombay. The amount of shipping bills of

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leding, freight and insurance was heavy. For example, an amount of £ 125 was required on a bill worth £ 1085-5-6 in 1812[28].

It seems that the discount system was prevalent at that time. M/s Longman and Co. London, in a letter dated 26th March 1813 had quoted the following terms of trade[29].

If cash with order	20% discount
Bill at 6 months	15% discount
Bill at 12 months bearing date of invoice	10% discount

Besides these, books published in India were purchased directly from the publishers on very few occasions. English newspapers published from Bombay, Calcutta, Madras etc. were subscribed for the reading room of the library.

Increase in Membership

Membership was extended to various persons by introducing a new class of subscribers in 1811 and a class of non-resident members on 27 Oct 1812. Due to the downfall of the Marathe power, various civil and military stations were established in the Bombay Presidency. Many of the Europeans residing at these places wanted to associate themselves with the activities of the Literary Society of Bombay, for which a subscription of Rs.100/- was to be paid. As they could neither take part in the literary activities of the Society nor could take advantage of the library, some of these members thought the payment of Rs.100/- unnecessary. Therefore, a new class of non-Resident members was created at the subscription of Rs.30/-

a year facilitating such non-resident members to associate with the Society. At the beginning it had 17 members. In 1829, it had 83 members, 30 subscribers and 39 non-resident members[30], in all 152 - all Europeans. From an analysis of the membership it could be concluded that members came from higher strata of the British Society. Higher officials of the British Government from judiciary, military, administration including the Governor of Bombay were members of this Society. Similarly eminent persons from different fields and professions were associated with the Society.

Library Finance

From the annual statements of income and expenditure, it can be found that it had a sound financial position mostly due to the high amount of subscription prescribed both for members and subscribers and the increase in the number of members. As the income from subscriptions was not sufficient for meeting the capital expenses, other sources of income such as floating of lotteries were explored. The income from membership was Rs. 6062 in 1805-06 which was increased to Rs.11871 in 1829. Major portion of this income (about £ 200 annually) was spent on purchase of books and magazines from England.

Organization and Management of the Library

Full time staff was appointed with comparatively good salary for carrying out the day to day work of the Society and

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its library. From the accounts of the Society, it seems that a writer on Rs.20 per month and 2 peons on Rs.5 per month each were appointed to carry on the library work in 1808 and the total annual expenditure incurred on establishment was Rs. 360. The pay of the clerk was increased to Rs.25 in 1812 and expenditure of Rs.35 per month (One clerk and 2 peons) was incurred in 1812. The pay of the librarian, sepoys and other menial staff amounted to Rs.540 in 1817 i.e. Rs. 45 per month.

Stock taking of books was carried out annually. Members were notified about the time of return of books to the library by advertisement in newspapers like the Bombay Courier. This was the easiest and the cheapest way of communication with the members.

A Library Committee was appointed to take decisions on library matters such as selection of books, purchase of books and periodicals and to give instructions to the staff members. Annual general meeting and the managing committee of the Society took decisions regarding admission of members and subscribers, allocation of budget for library, appointment of staff members, payment of bills, and amending the rules of the library. Office-bearers of the Society (One President, three Vice-Presidents, a Secretary and a Treasurer) were elected from among the ordinary members, at the annual general meeting. The subscribers and Non-Resident members had no right to vote at the annual meeting and to contest the election of the Managing Committee.

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The Town Hall : Rooms for the Society and its Library

The Society used to meet in rented rooms. With the growth of the library, it required more space. It shifted from place to place till it found permanent rooms in 1830 in the new Town Hall[31] constructed at the present location. In 1812, rent of Rs. 30 per month was paid for rooms owned by Pestonjee Bomanjee[32] In 1817, the Society was paying Rs. 1320 towards rented accommodation[33].

A library is a growing organism. Any growing society or library requires increasing accommodation for its working. Sir James Mackintosh anticipated these requirements and by a sanctioned lottery, raised an amount of Rs.16000/- for having a building for the Society and its library in 1810. But these funds were too short to meet the requirements. In the meantime, a proposal was under consideration to build a Town Hall which could serve as a place for meeting all people and for arranging various functions. Sir James Mackintosh therefore approached the Government and pleaded for allotting apartments in the Town Hall to the Literary Society for its library and for holding t their meetings with Rs.10000 as the Society's contribution. For raising funds for the Town Hall, a Town Hall Committee was formed and it could collect, with the sanctioned Bombay Lottery an amount of Rs. 130,000 for this purpose. The Literary Society of Bombay paid its contribution of Rs.10000 in 1817[34]. But the Town Hall Committee fell short of funds. The project was therefore, handed over to the Government of Bombay for

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completion. The rooms in the Town Hall were allotted to the Literary Society of Bombay in 1830 and the Society's office and the library moved to the new building on 26th November 1830. By securing these rooms, the Society could save an amount of more than Rs.1320 each year spent on rented rooms for the Society and its library.

Change in Name

In 1827 the name of the Society was changed. In that year Sir John Malcolm, the President, suggested in the course of his first address to the Society, that the Literary Society of Bombay should join hands for the pursuit of knowledge with the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland which had been started in London in 1823. The suggestion was taken up and on the motion of Vans Kennedy[35], it was resolved on 5 Dec 1827 that a communication should be opened with the London Society soliciting the formation of a connection with that body and a Committee of 11 persons including 3 Vice-Presidents, was appointed. The Committee reported on 27 Feb 1828 that the Union of the two societies shall be entirely of a literary nature, that the society shall act as an independent body and further that it shall change its present name into that of Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland.

These proposals were accepted by the Literary Society of Bombay on 27th February 1828 and the union took place, But it

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was not till 27th January 1830[36] that the new name appeared in the minutes of the Literary Society of Bombay.

The main argument advanced in favour of the proposed association by Vans Kennedy was that this association or Union would afford greater facility for the publication of the transactions or papers submitted at the meetings of the Literary Society of Bombay.

This progress was made under the leadership and guidance of eminent Britishers. The Governor of Bombay was its Patron. Besides Sir James Mackintosh, its president from 1804 to 1810; William Erskine, its first Secretary from 1804 to 1814; and Mr. Charles Forbes[37] the Treasurer from 1804-09, the following office bearers contributed to the development of the Society and its Library.

Presidents	Years	Secretaries	Years
Dr. R. Stewart	1811-13	W. L. Morgan	1815-17
W. T. Money	1813-15	Dr. J. Taylor	1817-19
O. Woodhouse	1815-19	Captain Vans Kennedy	1819-27
Hon Mountstuart Elphinstone	1819-27	Capt. George R. Jervis	1827-30
Sir John Malcolm	1827-30		

Achievements and contributions

This may be considered the first institution of its kind established in the Bombay Presidency which laid down the foundation of public library movement in Western Maharashtra.

Within a period of 25 years, firm foundation of the library was laid down as it acquired permanent rooms in the Town Hall which brought her stability and prosperity in the later period. The libfary possessed a good collection of books in all branches of knowledge replenished with fresh books and newspapers each year. The financial position was sound due to high amount of subscription for members and subscribers. The Society was organised and managed on democratic principles and according to the rules of the library. It was composed of the elites of Bombay - all Europeans.

But this activity was not purely a library activity. Library was an adjunct to the literary Society of Bombay. Membership of the Society was restricted to Europeans only. High amount of subscription for members as well as for subscribers prohibited many to join the Society and to take advantage of the library. Thus the needs of Britishers of higher income group especially residing in Bombay were considered and fulfilled by this library. The rule prescribing ballot for admission as members was criticised by Indians and enlightened Europeans.

Libraries outside Bombay - The Station Libraries

British Government established civil and military stations in the Bombay Presidency after defeating the Marathe rulers in 1818. Libraries established at the Civil and Military Stations (e.g. Surat, Poona, Baroda, Bhuj, Ratnagiri, Diss, Sholapur, Malcolm Peth, Ahmednagar, Rajkot, Ahmedabad)

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may be considered as constituting the second landmark in the development of library movement in the Bombay Presidency.

Surat Libraray and Reading Room

Of these it appears that the Surat Library and Reading Room is the oldest. It was established on 24 January 1821[38]. Principal object of the institution was to provide such books as may contain information useful to the servants of the Hon'ble Company in their several departments and especially to assist the Junior Branches of the Services in their studies. The Secretary of the library in his letter dated 2nd February 1821 to Francis Warden, Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, has sent a copy of the proceedings of a meeting convened for the purpose of forming such an establishment for laying it before the Governor in Council and requested the Governor in Council to grant such oriental and elementary works as may be published under the patronage and support of the Government[39]. The Government of Bombay donated about 20 books including Wilson's Sanskrit Dictionary, Simhasana Battishi, Vetal Panchavisi etc. to this libfary[40].

Rules of the library and reading room were framed[41]. It consisted of Proprietors and Subscribers. A proprietor had to purchase a share of Rs. 100/- and had to pay monthly subscription of Rs. Six. 13 Proprietors were enrolled in 1821. 3 works in 6 volumes were issued to Proprietors. A subscription of Rs. 8/- per month was prescribed for subscribers

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and they were permitted to use newspapers and periodicals in the reading room and one set of works was issued to them at a time.

Information about the growth of this library and reading room is available in a letter addressed by its Secretary to Mr.Charles Morris, Secretary of the Government of Bombay on 18th January 1828[42]. It contained about 2000 volumes. The library was supplied with new publications regularly from England, and received two newspapers from England, all Bombay papers and one paper each from Madras and Calcutta. This letter thanks the Government for giving them the privilege of receiving Bombay newspapers post free, and requests that they may be allowed the use of certain buildings in the Dutch Bunder, for accommodation of the library and reading room, relieving the library from heavy expense of house rent. It also refers to the worsening of the financial position of the library owing to the reduction in the number of Europeans stationed in Surat. A request is made that its correspondence and newspapers may be allowed to pass free of postage.

The Poona Library Society

Surat's example was followed by Poona. The Poona Library Society was established on 25 September 1823. In a letter dated 2nd May 1823[43], to William Newnham, Chief Secretary to Government of Bombay, Secretary of the Poona Library Society

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Mr. Thomas Robinson gives an account of the foundation of the library and submits a copy of the rules and regulations of Poona Library Society[44]. He further requests the Government to present oriental and other publications to the Poona Library Society.

This Society consisted of Proprietors, Members and subscribers and the property was vested in shares of Rupees one hundred each. The proprietor had to purchase a share of one hundred Rupees and to pay a monthly subscription of Rupees Three. A member had to pay Rs. 50 as entrance money and to pay a monthly subscription of Rs. Three. A subscriber had to pay a monthly Subscription of Rs. Seven and had the privilege of use of the library and reading room without the right to vote. On the payment of a donation by the mess of any Corps of Rupees one hundred and fifty, all officers below the rank of Field Officers associated with that corps were admitted as subscribers at Rs.4/- per month.

From among the proprietors and members, a Committee of Management consisting of Five members were to be selected annually for management of the society. The proprietors, members or subscribers were entitled to take one work (not to exceed 3 volumes) at a time from the library and the period of loan was a fortnight. All reviews and periodical publications were to remain for 2 months in the reading room, and then were circulated, the period of loan being a week. All the newspapers were to be kept in the reading room for seven

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days for public inspection and then to be filed. It was kept open on all days except on Sunday during the time of Divine service.

Baroda Library was established thereafter. In a letter dated the 16th April 1926, the Secretary of the Baroda Library reports the establishment of library two years back and asks for a free gift of books published under the patronage of the Government of Bombay since a similar gift was made to the Surat library[45].

Correspondence for other libraries and reading rooms at the other stations (at Bhuj, Ratnagiri, Sholapur, Ahmednagar, Ahmedabad, Disa, Malcolmpeth) are available in the Bombay Archives.

The Secretary of the Bhuj Residency Library in his letter dated 17th November 1827[46] asked for the privilege of receiving Bombay Newspapers post-free and the request was granted by the Government of Bombay. This privilege was also extended to all other public libraries in the Bombay Presidency at Poona, Baroda and Surat[47].

Similar requests to receive the Bombay Newspapers post free from the Secretaries of the following libraries were granted by the Government of Bombay.

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Name of the Library	Date of the letter from the Secretary
Ratnagiri Book Society	18 August 1828[48]
Deesa[49] (Gujarat) Library	10 April 1828[50]
Sholapur Library and Reading room	17 July 1829[51]

In a letter dated 16th February 1828[52], the Secretary of the Poona library, while thanking the Government for the privilege of receiving Bombay papers post free, requests that the privilege be extended to cover newspapers and books received from England, conveyed by the Bangy Dakpaul (Postman) free of charge. The Governor in Council was pleased to sanction the newspapers and books from England, for the Poona library, being conveyed by Bangy, free of postage, the rules of the Bangy dak, of course, not being infringed[53]. Consequently the Chairman of the Ahmednagar Station Library in his letter dated 30 December 1830[54] asked for the same privilege in respect of newspapers and books passing post free as the Poona Library. Permission was granted for letters and newspapers to pass free, but not for books and pamphlets[55].

The Political Agent of Kathiawar at Rajkot in his letter dated 19th July 1833[56] to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay sends a copy of the rules of the Library and Reading Room at Rajkot and requests the Governor in Council at Bombay to permit the correspondence of the library pass free of postage. He further requests for a donation of some oriental books and government publications on Law and other matters.

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The following remarks from Governor Clare on this letter might also be of interest in connection with requests from exemption from postage and throws light on the policy of the Government in this matter[57].

> "As Ahmednagar is the only library where letters are allowed to pass free, this privilege must be cancelled and the Post Master General informed of this and also that it is only newspapers of this Presidency that are to pass free to libraries under Bombay. The Bombay news-papers may go free to Rajkot library, but not books, pamphlets or reviews etc. to any library can go free of postage and this may be explained to the Post Master General".

This policy has been further explaindd while replying to the letter dated 15th December 1834[58] received from the Ahmedabad Library asking for the privilege, of receiving newspapers from Bengal, Kanpur and Madras (viz. Bengal Harkaru, Cawnpore Examiner, Madras Male Asylum Herald) post free. Government could not accede to this request[59].

In a letter dated 10th June 1830[60], the Secretary of the Malcolmpeth[61] (Mahabaleshwar) Hill library requested that a recently constructed government house be sold to them on favourable terms (original cost to the Government Rs.1360/- at Rs.1000) for the establishment of a public reading room at that station. As the object desirable was worthy of encouragement, the requested was granted[62].

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These libraries were established by the English people, mostly government servants residing at the civil and military stations and were financed from the subscriptions collected from the members. There were few books and newspapers mostly in the English language in these libraries and reading rooms. It is but natural that these Britishers were away from their homeland and were interested in the news from home and therefore subscribed to newspapers from England. They were also interested about the happenings in the other parts of India and therefore subscribed to English newspapers published in India. As these stations were established far away from the native populations, they could not mix with the Indians, in this period and therefore had to pass their leisure time in reading books, newspapers and other club activities. In these circumstances, these were mostly reading rooms with a small collection of English books with occasional addition from England.

These libraries were sometimes called 'Library Society' as in the case of 'Poona Library Society' or 'Book Society' as in the case of 'Ratnagiri Book Society'. The inspiration to establish these institutions might have come from the Literary Society of Bombay and its library. As it was not possible to carry on the literary activity at these stations due to limited number of persons at each station, only the library activity was undertaken to cater for their needs.

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We also find similar 'Library Societies' established in the Bengal Presidency[63]. For example Calcutta Library Society was in existence since 1819[64] and continued upto 1832[65]. It was formed by a number of 'Proprietors' who invested money in the establishment of a Library that could be used by the public on payment of a fixed rate of subscription. All members were Europeans.

The Station libraries at Poona and Malcolm Peth made progress thereafter. The Poona Library[66] was open to Proprietors, Quarterly subscribers and monthly subscribers at the subscription rate of Rs. 40 and Rs. 48 per annum and Rs.4 per month respectively. Proprietors and Quarterly subscribers were issued one set of new books and two sets of old books besides one periodical but the monthly subscribers were issued two sets of books. The new works including periodicals were circulated to Proprietors and quarterly subscribers in proper rotation. Proprietors only had the privilege of holding an office on the Committee of Management consisting of 5 persons.

At Malcolm Peth[67], members were admitted on payment of subscription of Rs. 5 per month or Rs. 30 per season. Visitors were allowed at Rs. 4 per month. They were issued two books at a time and one periodical for a period of 4 days after one week from its receipt in the library. Newspapers were issued for one day. The library was managed by a Committee of Management of three members with the Medical Officer of Malcolm Peth as its secretary and treasurer.

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The Postal Charges

In order to appreciate the reason for the great concern shown in this correspondence in the matter of postal charges, one had to remember that at this time, the postal system known as Bangi establishment was current. Under this system following were the charges for newspapers and books between Bombay and Poona after revision in 1825[68].

1. All parcels containing newspapers, pamphlets and accounts, law papers and others if left open at one end [and having the name of the person who forwards them superscribed on the envelope] will be received for transmission at the rate of Four Annas for every ten tolas weight.

2. A parcel under 4 pounds weight not exceeding the cube of one foot, and not containing any of the papers or writings specified above, will be charged One Rupee postage.

3. For each pound exceeding 4 pounds weight, an additional sum of 4 Annas will be levied.

4. A whole Bangy may be had for Rs. 8 but the weight for transmission will be restricted to 30 pounds.

All the material to be sent to places in Deccan were sent from Bombay to Poona by Bangy Dak and then further transmitted to various places. These postal rates were revised thereafter and were fixed according to distance of the town from Bombay and the weight of the parcel.

'Dnyanodaya' comments on postal rates[69]

As per revised rates, postage on Dnyanodaya for one copy sent under the distance of 20 miles from Bombay was one Anna - just the price of the newspaper itself. (Dnyanodaya was issued 2 times a month and the annual subscription was 1 Rupee 8 Annas only) i.e. one Anna per issue. Postage for one copy sent over 20 miles and upto 400 miles (From Bombay most of the towns in W. Maharashtra were upto 400 miles) was two Annas or Double the price of the newspaper.

However the rates for a parcel of 13 copies of Dnyanodaya, put up in short covers, open at both ends, can be sent by Bangy Dak to any place under 20 miles distance for one Anna postage and upto 200 miles for two Annas postage. The Editor of the Dnyanodaya therefore requests the subscribers at one place to arrange the receipt of copies of Dnyanodaya in one cover instead of separate covers on individual addresses in order to reduced the amount on postage. The subscribers may arrange for the distribution of copies in the town. The Editor further comments on postal rates as follows:

> "We are sorry that the Government of this country should think it necessary to place such an embargo on the diffusion of general intelligence as is done in the matter of postage on newspapers. Two annas on any newspaper, however, small, sent by post over twenty miles, renders it almost impossible to get any paper however useful into circulation among the natives beyond that distance, except at large stations where several can join together to take a number of copies . . . . . Government should not put any tax

on knowledge especially in this country. If the Government wishes to encourage the general diffusion of knowledge among the Hindoos and such is doubtless their wish, we think the postage on newspapers taken by natives in the interior should be diminished.

The postal charges thus formed a heavy burden on the finances of institutions like libraries. It was only in 1854 that the basic charge for newspapers and other printed matter was reduced to 1 Anna per 10 tolas from the previous figures of 4 Annas for 10 Tolas.

New Post Office Act from 1st October 1854[70]

Newspapers to any distance	
Under 3-1/2 Tolas	2 Annas
Over 3-1/2 upto 6 Tolas	4 Annas
Each additional 3 Tolas or fraction of 3 Tolas	2 Annas additional.
Imported Newspapers	
Under 6 Tolas	2 Annas
Over 6 Tolas to 12 Tolas	4 Annas
Books, pamphlets or papers sent prepaid by stamps in Bangy Dak	
Upto 20 Tolas	1 Anna
If exceeds 20 Tolas	Pay as per Rate distance and weight.

Thus the libraries established at various civil and military stations in the Bombay Presidency met with the needs of the Britishers residing at these stations. All the members of these libraries were Europeansmostly servants of the British Government. No Indian was a member of these libraries upto 1830.

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NOTES

General Note

This chapter on the Literary Society of Bombay and Station Libraries is mostly based on the following original unpublished records at present available at the Library of the Asiatic Society of Bombay and the Bombay Archives.

Literary Society of Bombay. Minute Book (Handwritten)

1804-1820)	Contains minutes of the meetings of the Committee of Management, Annual meetings of the Society and other correspondence.
1820-1830)	

Literary Society of Bombay. Committee for Library and Accounts. Minute Book. (Handwritten)

1820-1824)	Contains income expenditure statements, balance sheets etc.
1824-1830)	

The minute books as well as the pages of the minute books are not numbered. References are therefore given to the dates of the meeting held and the minutes recorded in the above minute books. However, references to the minute books are not given separately when the dates of the meetings of the Committee of Management and Annual Meeting of the Society are incorporated in the body of the text of this Chapter.

Bombay Archives

All the correspondence is handwritten and is filed in the volumes of the General Department (GD).

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1. Kaye, John William. The Administration of the East India Company: A history of Indian progress. 1966. (Reprinted).

2. LSB. Minute Book: 1804-1820. p. 1. 26 November 1804 meeting. Minutes.

3. In 1798, the whole population of Europeans including Seamen and soldiers of Bombay Island was not more than a thousand. The town was one mile in length and a quarter of a mile in breadth, out of which the following 17 people became members of the society in the beginning. The Hon Jonathan Duncan, Governor of Bombay, the Right Hon'ble Lord Viscount Valentia, The Hon Sir James Mackintosh, Lt. Genl. O Nicolls, Dr.Helenus Scott, Dr.George Keir, Dr.Robert Drummond, S.M.Thriepland, sqr., Wm. Dowdswell, Esqr., Mr.Salt., Capt. Wk. Brookes, Lt.Col. Joseph Boden, Major T.Charlton Harris, Capt. Jasper Nicolls, Capt. Edward Moor, Charles Forbes Esqr., William Erskine, sqr.

   Many of these names are familiar to historians. In their own time, they were leaders in their professions and vocations, and yet found time to pursue the paths of research in other fields of knowledge. Administration, Army and the Navy, Law and Justice, Medicine and Science, Travel as well as Business were represented in the seventeen who initiated the Society.

4. Mackintosh, Sir James (1765-1832). Recorder (Chief Justice) of Bombay, 1804 to 1811. After return to England entered Parliament, worked for the revision of the Criminal Law and later took office in the Reform Ministry of Earl Grey. Worked for a statistical account for the Island of Bombay and designed the questionnaire which turned into Census of Bombay in 1847. Compiled vocabulary of Indic terms. Wrote on historical topics.

   He was a lover of books and possessed a private library. Maria Graham, a traveller, arrived in Bombay on 28 May 1809 and visited Mackintosh. She reports 'Sir James possesses the best library that ever doubles the Cape, it is arranged in a large room like the cell of a temple'. In Graham, Maria. Journal of a Residence in India. Illustrated by engravings. Edinburgh, Printed by George Ramsay and Company, for Archibald Constable and Company, Edinburgh; and Longman, Hurst, Rees, Orme and Brown, London, 1812. 211 p. p.6).

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5. rskine, William. Came to India in May 1804 with Sir James Mackintosh, whose daughter he married later. A lawyer.Appointed Clerk of the Small Causes Court, magistrate and Master of equity. Made a study of religious literature of the parsees and the Buddhists.

   Secretary, Literary Society of Bombay, 1804-15. Vice-President, 1815- His bust in Marble now stands in the vestibule near the head of the stairs leading to the library room.

6. Jones, Sir William (1746-1794). Oriental Scholar, Founder of the Asiatic Society of Bengal. Judge of the High Court at Calcutta 1783-1794. Jurist - codified and explained Hindu and Muhammadan law. Contributed to the magazine 'Asiatick Researches'.

7. Asiatic Society of Bengal. Centenary Review of the Asiatic Society of Bengal from 1784 to 1883. 1885. Part I. History of the Society by Dr.Rajendralal Mitra, p.3.

8. LSB. Minute Book: 1804-1820. 31 Dec 1804 meeting.Minute.

9. Frere, Bartle (History of the Society). Address on 30 November 1864.
   JBBRAS VIII. 1863-64, 1864-65, 1865-66. Abstract of the Proceedings of the Society for the years 1863-64, 1864-65, p. XXXVII.

10. Appendix No.1. (First Balance sheet 1804-1808).

11. LSB. Minute Book: 1804-1820. 31 Dec 1804 meet ng. Minute.

12. LSB. Minute Book: 1804-1820. Draft of the application was submitted to the meeting held on 25 March 1805 and was approved in the meeting held on 29 April 1805. Government gave sanction on 31 May 1805. Text of application has been recorded in the minute of the meeting held on 22 May 1805.

13. LSB. Minute Book: 1804-1820. 28 July 1812 meeting. Minute.

14. Madras Gazette was started on January 1, 1795.

15. Bengal Harkaru was started in 1798 at Calcutta.

16. Bombay Gazette was started in 1791. The Bombay Herald started in 1789, was merged into it in 1792. It was officially recognised for purpose of official notifications and advertisements by the Government of Bombay. The Bombay Courier was published from 1790. Later on, official notifications and advertisements of the Govt. of Bombay were published in this newspaper.

17. Printed catalogue. Reference has been made to the printed catalogue of 1817 by Mr. Bartle Frere, President of the Society in his address to the Society on 30 November 1864. Op. cit. (Note no. 9)

18. An entry for the catalogue printed in 1834 has been found in the handwritten catalogue of the Bombay Archives, Old publications Section. Both these catalogues are not available in any library (i.e. lost).

19. LSB. Minute Book: 1804-1820. 29 February 1820. meeting. Minute.

20. Muzumdar, V.D. (Comp.): A narrative of the Development and Achievement of the Bombay Branch Royal Asiatic Society. 26th November 1954. Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society. Sardha - Satabdi Celebrations (150th Anniversary) (1894-1954). 1954. pp. 43-48. List of Rare and Antique Books and Manuscripts.

Macmillan, M. Some old books (I) in the Society's Library. JBBRAS 20 (1897-1900) Art II pp.11-21. (1 Priceless MSS of Dante, 2. Other Italian books in the library, 3. Old foreign books. Oldest English Books).

21. Macdonell, W.R. On the MS of Dante's Divine Commedia in the library of the BBRAS (Read March 5, 1891). JBBRAS XVII 1890-1894. pp. 56-70.

22. LSB. Minute book: 1820-1830. 31 May 1826 meeting. Minute.

23. Taylor, Dr. John. (died 1821). Member of the Literary Society of Bombay. M.D.Degree (Edinburgh Univ 1804). Entered Bombay service, Assistant Surgeon 26 March 1809. Surgeon (1821). Author of several translations from the Sanskrit.

24. Miles, William. (1780-1860). Major General, Indian Army. In 1817, captured the fortified town of Pahlanpore. Political Superintendent of the state. In 1826 concluded the treaty with the Chiefs of Suigem in Gujarat. Subsequently Resident in Cutch and Political Agent in Gujarat. Major General (1854).

25. Rumal. A piece of cloth especially red in colour, square orrrectangular in size. Used to preserve the manuscripts. In one Rumal, number of manuscripts may be preserved depending on the size and pages of the manuscripts.

26. LSB. Minute Bilk: 1804-1820. 1 Sept 1812 meeting. Minute.

27. LSB. Minute Book: 1820-1830. 26 September 1820 meeting. Minute.

28. LSB. Minute Book: 1804-1820. 28 July 1812 meeting. Minute.

29. LSB. Minute Book: 1804-1820. 25 October 1813 meeting. Minute.

30. LSB. Minute Book: 1820-30. Statement of each years subscription realised from the members and subscribers of the LSB from 1817 to 1829, accompanying minute of 29 Nov. 1829 meeting.

31, Town Hall. The first meeting of the Society was held at Government House, Parel. The second meeting (31-12-1804) was held at the Theatre which according to Mr.JRD Jeejeebhoy, was situated on the Bombay Green at the site, where the Devkaran Nanaji Buildings stand today. In 1810, the Society was housed in Meadows street and the meetings continued to be held at t e Theatre. In 1812 rent of Rs.30 per month was paid for rooms owned by Pestonjee Bomanjee. On 20 February 1816, it was housed in Rampart Row rooms . On 26 March 1816, the Society arranged small rooms of M/s Baxter and Co. at Rs.100 per month. In 1817, the Society was paying Rs.1320 for rented accommodation.

32. LSB. Minute Book: 1804-1820. Statement of Accounts for the year 1811-12. Recorded after 27 Oct 1812 meeting. Minute.

33. LSB. Minute Book: 1804-1820. Statement of Accounts for the year 1817. In 28 Jan 1817 meeting. Minute.

34. Ibid.

35. Kennedy, Vans, Major General. Judge Advocate General of the Bombay Army. President of the Oriental Translation Committee of the BBRAS. Author of books on oriental topics, ancient chronology and history of India. Secretary LSB 1819-26; President 1831-35 and Hon. President.

36. LSB. Minute Book: 1820-1830. 27 Jan 1830 meeting. Minute.

37. Forbes, Charles, Sir (Baronet). Connected with business. His firm Forbes and Co. continued for long to assist the Society in manag ng the finances. Left to England in 1810. His statue stands in the Southern portion of the Town Hall building.

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38. GD 1821-23 Vol. 23/26. p.123.

39. GD 1821-23 Vol. 23/26. p. 119.

40. GD 1821-23 Vol. 23/26. p. 131-35.

41. GD 1821-23 Vol. 23/26. p. 123-27.

42. GD 1828. Vol.13/166. p. 11-14.

43. GD 1821-23 Vol. 23/26 pp.93-94.

44. GD 1821-23 Vol. 23/26. pp.95-113.

45. GD 1827 Vol. 10/118. pp. 181-182.

46. GD 1828. Vol.13/166. pp. 1-3.

47. GD 1828. Vol. 13/166. p. 9.

48. GD 1828. Vol. 13/166. p. 29.

49. Deesa (Diesa). Cantonment in the Palanpur Agency, Bombay, Situated in 24° 14' N and 72° 12' . on the river Banas, about 300 miles North-by-West of Bombay City on the Palanpur-Deesa branch of the Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railway. Cantonment is situated - three miles North-West of the native town.

50. GD 1828 Vol.13/166. p.23.

51. GD 1828 Vol.9/186. p. 3.

52. GD 1828 Vol.13/166 p.19.

53. GD 1828 Vol.13/166 p.21.

54. GD 1831 Vol.12/231 p. 87

55. GD 1831 Vol.12/131 p.89

56. GD 1833 Vol.10/281 p.142.

57. GD 1833 Vol.10/281. p.145.

58. GD 1835 Vol.8/323. p. 92.

59. GD 1835 Vol.8/323. p. 94.

60. GD 1830 Vol.10/207, p.164.

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61. Mahabaleshwar (or Malcolmpeth). Principal sanitarium of the Bombay Presidency, situated in 17° 5' N and 13° 40' E., in the Javli Taluka of Satara District. Population (1901) 2,299 excluding 438 in the village of Mahabaleshwar, 3 miles from the station which is officially known as Malcolmpeth. Height 4500 feet, Good Hill Station. Uninhabitated during the rainy season due to heavy rainfall.

    It was established in 1828 by Sir John Malcolm, Governor of Bombay, who obtained the site from the Raja of Satara in exchange for another patch of territory.

    Mahabaleshwar proper is a municipality under the administrative charge of a Superintendent, who is usually a member of the Indian Medical Service.

62. GD 1830. Vol. 10/207. p.166.

63. Ohdedar, A.D. The growth of the Library in Modern India. 1498-1836. 1966. pp. 136-177.

64. Calcutta Journal. April 6, 1819 pp. 61-68.

65. The Calcutta Annual Directory, 1831, p.318.

66. The Bombay Times Calender and Almanac for 1851. Bombay. Printed at the 'Times Press' by James Chesson, 1851. pp. 74-75. Rules of the Poona Station Library.

67. The Bombay Calendar and General Directory for the year 1846 containing European and Native Calendar and Almanac. Bombay, 1846. pp. 257-258. Rules and Regulations of the Malcolm Peth Library.

68. The Bombay Calendar and Register for the year 1826 with an Almanac. Bombay, 1826. Government Advertisement by Post Master General dated 23 March 1825. Appendix p. 41.

69. Dnyanodaya, 4 (10) 15 May 1845. pp.153, 155-156.

70. Dnyanodaya, 15 Sept. 1854, p. 278.

CHAPTER - 4

ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIVE GENERAL LIBRARIES 1831-1855.

The next stage in the history of library development was the establishment of Native Libraries or Native General Libraries in the Bombay Presidency.

During this period of half a century, library movement was regarded by the Govt. as an integral part of the programme for promotion of education in India. From this point of view, this period is of greater significance to the development of library movement in India. It was during this stage that firm foundations of the library movement were laid down. The libraries established during this period made remarkable progress in the field of library movement.

Native General Library

The term Native was used to differentiate Europeans from Indians. Native is a generic term to denote all Indians such as the Hindus, the Parsees, the Muslims, etc. This term was used even by the institutions like 'The Bombay Native Education Society' or by the newspaper "The Native Opinion".

General

This word first appeared in the name of the Bombay General Library established by J.H.Stocqueler in 1830 with the

meaning that the library is open to all without distinction of religion, caste or income group. No such restriction was put for admission to the library. In this content, the Library of the Literary Society of Bombay was not 'General' in its nature. It further indirectly refers to prescription of cheaper rate of subscription for membership. Such rate facilitates persons of all income groups especially the poorer classes (majority of them being the Indians) to become members of public libraries.[5]

Library

Library in the broader context means a room or building where books, newspapers and magazines are kept and given for use by the readers.

Reading Room

Reading room refers to a seperate place for reading newspapers and magazines within the walls of a library. Some libraries had separate reading rooms.

Many libraries had a combined name as the Nasik Native General Library and Reading Room.

Before studying the history of native libraries established during this period, it would be desirable to know the various factors which promoted the Native General Library movement in the Bombay Presidency.

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Printing of books and newspapers[1]

As a result of the British influence, impetus was given to the publication of books, newspapers and magazines both in English and in Regional languages, in India. Bombay's first newspaper, the Bombay Herald came into existence in 1789. The 'Courier' which started publication a year later carried advertisements in Gujarati. The Bombay Gazette was started in 1791 and the Bombay Herald was merged into the Bombay Gazette in the following year being officially recognised for purposes of official publications, notifications and advertisements. This practice was discontinued during 1830's by Sir John Malcolm, Governor of Bombay, as a measure of economy and the Bombay Government started an official gazette, the Bombay Government Gazette.

The first Gujarati newspaper Mumbaina Samachar was published in 1822 which was converted into a daily in 1832. The Mumbai Vartaman was started in September 1830 and in 1831 the Jame-Jamshed which continues to be published today was started by Pestonji Manekji Motiwala.

The first Marathi book was published at Serampore (near Calcutta) in Modi script in 1805 but the first Marathi book in the Devanagari script was printed in 1822 at Bombay. The first Marathi newspaper 'Mumbai Digdarshan' was published in 1832 by Balshastri Jambhekar. Thereafter number of books and

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newspapers were printed in English as well as in regional languages in the Bombay Presidency.

Spread of Education in the Bombay Presidency[2]

After the Charter Act of 1813, the British introduced the system of formal education in India and a number of schools were opened in the Bombay Presidency. In 1815 a "Society for the Promotion of the Education of Poor Children" was formed by the members of the Church of England especially for the European communities. This society, later on admitted Indian children, without the compulsion of religious instruction and a number of Hindu, Parsee, Muslim pupils attended their schools. By 1820, this society conducted 4 schools for Indian children, with 250 pupils on their role.

In 1820, Bombay Education Society appointed 'Native School Book Committee' which was formed into a separate society called the 'Bombay School Book and School Society' or 'Bombay Native Education Society'. It looked after the education of Indian children and the parent body (Bombay Education Society) restricted its activities to education of European or Anglo-Indian children only.

In 1823, the Bombay Native Education Society on recommendation from Elphinstone, was recognised as the official agency for the spread of education among the Indian people and grant-in-aid of Rs. 600 per month was paid to the society. In 1824, an English school was established in Bombay, which

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later became the Elphinstone High School. In 1825, the Society started (a) 24 primary schools at various places in the Districts and placed them under specially trained teachers, (b) an Engineering Class and a Medical Class in Bombay - the medium of instruction in both being the mother-tongue of the students. And by 1833, it was conducting four English Schools at Bombay, Thana, Panvel and Poona and several primary schools. Between 1826 and 1830, the Society had also printed nearly 50000 volumes and incurred an expenditure of more than Rs. 2,00,000 in their preparation and printing. These books which were mostly in the mother-tongue of the people sold in very large numbers and actually brought in some profit to the publishers.

The Board of Education

In April 1840, the Government of Bombay decided to constitute one agency for the management of all the institutions for the education of Indians and established a Board of Education consisting of seven members of whom three were to be nominated by the Bombay Native Education Society. This Board continued to function till 1855 when the first Director of Public Instruction took over charge.

The Board of Education managed all the Institutions conducted by the Bombay Native Education Society, besides the Poona Sanskrit College, the Elphistone Institution. It undertook to establish a primary school in a village of not

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less than 2000 population provided the people gave school-houses free of rent, and agreed to pay a monthly fee of one Anna per pupil.

Thereafter the number of schools and the pupils enrolled increased as follows

Year	1845[3]	1855[4]
1. Expenditure on Education	1,68,226	2,99,000
2. Number of pupils reading in Government schools	10,616	18,888
3. Number of pupils reading in English Schools	651	1,326

Following table gives information about the General Educational Progress in the Bombay Presidency upto 1855-56[5].

Institutions	No. of Institutions	No. of pupils
1. Arts Colleges	2	103
2. Professional colleges and schools	7	311
3. Secondary schools	30	3,578
4. Primary schools	256	20,011
5. Indigenous schools (aided)	Nil	
6. Training schools & colleges	5	76
Total	300	24,079
Unrecognised		
1. Secondary schools and primary schools	188	11,447
2. Indigenous schools	2,387	70,514
Total	2,575	81,961
Grand Total	2,875	1,06,040

With the spread of education, the educated Indians needed reading materials (books, newspapers and magazines) for adding new knowledge or for recreation or for passing the leisure time especially in case of Indians employed in Government offices and commercial firms. These people resorted to public libraries for fulfilment of their needs.

The Bombay General Library

The first attempt in the direction of Native General Library movement was made by Mr. Joachim Hayward Stocqueler[6], Journalist, the then editor of the Bombay Courier, to establish a library namely the Bombay General Library for the common benefit of both Europeans and Indians, in 1830.

In his memoirs published in 1873[7], J.H.Stocqueler has given a detailed account of this library. The founder says:

> "There were two or three young Hindoos and a Parsee at Bombay in whom I took considerable interest, because they manifested an ardent desire to cultivate English literature and under the auspices of the Native Education Society, this laudable passion was increasing. But Bombay laboured at the time under the great disadvantage of being deficient of a public library to which all classes might have gratuitous access. The library of the Asiatic Society was only available to the patrician members, and the libraries of Messrs. Lugrin and Baxter[8] were consecrated to the lightest literature. I put myself, therefore, in communication with a clever young Irish friend, who had come out as a private artilleryman (and had devoted himself to the study of Hindoostanee and Marathi), in view

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to the formation of a general library. Robert Xavier Murphy was an Irish Catholic working as interpreter in the Supreme Court at Bombay. Murphy opened a correspondence with all persons likely to aid this project. Upwards of 40 signatures having been, within a few days, affixed, a meeting was called by circular, and held in the house of Jamsedjee Jeejeebhoy, in Military Square, on the evening of the 19th October 1830. Mr. Stocqueler, the gentlemen who had originally suggested the idea, was called to the Chair and a series of resolutions was entered into for the formation and management of the proposed library. Of these resolutions, the first established the Institution under the name of "The Bombay General Library and Reading Room", and the second declared that it should be open to all ranks, classes, and castes without distinction, a respectable character, a decorous of demeanour, and a strict adherence to the rules, constituting the only requisites for admission".

Five of the gentlemen present were selected as a Committee of Management, and this Committee chose Mr. Stocqueler as their Secretary.

The opening meeting of this Institution was held, on Monday the 15th November 1830[9]. About 70 members were present on the occasion. After the speech of the Chairman, Mr. Thomas Crawford, a report was read by the Secretary about the history of its formation, its objects and the progress made. It revealed that more than 1000 printed volumes and nearly 50 oriental manuscripts were presented to or deposited in the library. Materials like the globe and

charts, pictures, busts, statues, and furniture were collected by way of voluntary gifts from the members. The collection contained almost all the celebrated writers of European Countries. In English language, it contained works of every classical prose writers and poets of eminence and selected works in Science, History, Biography, Philosophy, Travels etc. It also possessed books on history, religion and manners of the East, Oriental Philosophy. It was hoped that the collection "will afford the amplest field to the lovers of Asiatic Literature".

Further, he thanked Mr. Robert C. Money, Secretary of the Bombay Native Education Society for donating to the library a copy of all works (40 volumes) published and printed under the auspices of the Bombay Native Education Society. Indian newspapers were received gratis from the Editor of the Courier (Bombay). The number of subscribers increased from forty to one hundred. Further, orders were placed with M/s Richardson (London), Booksellers "for the most talented English periodicals and a small stock of the best authors of that day".

Mr. Clarke was appointed Pro-Secretary. Mr. A. F. Rodrigues and Shrikrishna Vasudevjee were elected respectively by the Portuguese and Hindu members, in the managing Committee. The library was housed in the rooms owned by Framjee Cowasjee at Rs. 100/- rent per month.

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The Committee of Management of the Bombay General Library paid tributes to Sir John Malcolm, Governor of Bombay when he retired from his service in November 1830 and requested his support to the library.

Sir John Malcolm, assured to send his books relating to Persia and India "as a token of my sincerely good wishes for the prosperity of your institution".[10].

I have not been able so far, despite some efforts in that direction, to trace the subsequent history of this library, or to locate the present whereabouts of the collection of books owned by it.

This attempt was shortlived mostly due to the departure of the founder Mr. Stocqueler to Calcutta. Mr. Stocqueler also introduced the library movement in Calcutta. He further writes:[11]

> "Finding by my letters from Bombay that the 'general library' had taken firm root and was flourishing, I determined to attempt the introduction of a similar establishment in Calcutta, for that city was equally destitute of a public library. The endeavour had been made some years previously and had failed.
>
> Receiving a good deal of countenances from the upper class, my project was now submitted to a public meeting[12] over which Sir John Peter Grant, one of the Judges of the Supreme Court, presided and was so well received that subscriptions rapidly poured in and books were presented. I was appointed honorary secretary of the library, and received very gratifying public tributes to my humble endeavours to supply a real want".

This attempt was a reaction towards the library of the Literary Society of Bombay. This is evident from the following statement made by the Secretary of the Bombay General Library while stressing the need of such a library. He says "The want of such an institution has been felt by the Asiatic in the pursuit of Europeans, by the European in his prosecution of Asiatic literature, by every individual of either class who follows study as a profession or recurs to it as a recreation.

To gratify such a taste to its full extent, the circumstances of no single individual will permit. The Library of the Literary Society does not afford the remedy, many individuals are too modest to offer themselves as candidates for admission into a body so strictly literary - many are withheld from the fear of being repulsed - some have applied and have been pained by rejection.

It may be said that no ballot is required in order to become a subscriber to the Library of the Literary Society, and such is now the case; only two months ago[13], however, such a ballot was necessary and what was once the rule may become so again; independent of all these considerations, the high amount of the subscription established alike for the members and the subscribers must or ever close the doors of that Institution against many individuals; more especially the poorer classes of native students".

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Stocqueler further elucidates two principles on which the library had been founded. He says that this new institution should be at once general in it's nature (i.e. sufficiently liberal to be open to all classes) and economical in its scale (i.e. conducted upon principles so economical as to meet the circumstances of every rank in life) with the aim 'to diffuse a literary spirit amongst all orders, and create means for its gratification'.

The first principle prescribed for admission of all the people to a public library. This principle has been accepted and adopted in the present day public libraries in Western Maharashtra. The second principle considers the economic condition of all the Indians and their capacity to pay the subscription implying that the rates of subscription to be prescribed for members in public libraries should be suitable for payment by persons of different income groups. The two principles are of everlasting value for the establishment of public libraries in Western Maharashtra.

Importance of this attempt consists in realising the needs of Indians for a public library, for the first time in the history of the library movement in Bombay Presidency. Therefore this library may be described as the third landmark in the history of library development in Bombay Presidency.

This library focussed attention on the problem of admission of the Indians to the Bombay Branch of the Royal

Asiatic Society and paved the way for establishment of public libraries for Indians in the later period.

Admission of Indians to the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society.

With the establishment of the Bombay General Library, attempts were made for admission of Indians to the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society:

On 29th May 1833, while Colonel Vans Kennedy was in the Chair, the name of Manockjee Cursetjee[14] was proposed as Member by Mr. Robert Money (the then Secretary of the Bombay Native Education Society) and seconded by Vans Kennedy himself. But there was a great opposition to the admission of a native as a member of the Society and the proposal was rejected.[15]

The Editor of the Oriental Christian Spectator[16] (Bombay) Rev. John Wilson[17] regretted the decision in the following words:

> "As Manockjee has a respectable knowledge of several of the Asiatic and European languages, and is willing and able to advance the interests of the Society, we regret the decision which was come to in his case".[18]

Though there was opposition for admission to the Indians as Members, it seems, Indians were admitted as Subscribers to the Society's Library. For instance on 29th June 1836, Mr. Cursetjee Jamsetjee was elected a subscriber, his nomination being proposed by the Rev. Dr.John Wilson and seconded by J.Bird. Next year he was followed by Manmohandas Devidas, also being proposed by Dr.John Wilson.

A second attempt to admit Indians to the Society was made on 31st January 1838 when the name of Cursetjee Jamsetjee (already a subscriber) was once again proposed this time by H.Fraser and seconded by Col. Dickinson[19]. But the proposition was withdrawn at the request of Cursetjee Jamsetjee. A note addressed by H.Fraser to the Secretary was read, on 28th Feb. 1838, withdrawing the name of Cursetjee Jamsetjee as a candidate to be a member, "under the impression that there was a prejudice against the admission of Natives into the Society".[20]

The minute further recorded

> "A general feeling of regret that such an impression existed, was expressed by several members present without any observations being made which indicated an opposite feeling on the part of many. After some discussion on the best means of removing it, the business of the meeting was proceeded with -".

Once again on 26th December 1839 the name of Manockjee Cursetjee was proposed as a Member by Dr.John Wilson and seconded by Dr.Ian Burness[21]. In the meanwhile Manockjee Cursetjee got elected as a non-resident member of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland on 17th January 1835. It may be pointed that after the union of the Literary Society of Bombay with the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland, members of the Royal Asiatic Society were got elected as members of the Bombay Branch Royal Asiatic Society in the meeting in which the name was proposed.

This alternative way, it seems was found by Manockjee Cursetjee and his friends. But he was not elected in this way. In the meeting it was questioned whether any rule requiring an immediate ballot, existed. No such rule having been found, it was unanimously agreed that the former precedents could not establish such rule. This proposal, therefore, was balloted for in the next meeting held on 29th January 1840 and Manockjee Cursetjee was duly elected.[22] Thus, doors of the Society and its library were opened for the Indians as members of the Society.

But this policy for admission of Indians to the Society as members, it seems, was very restrictive as only seven Indians, mentioned below, have been admitted to the Society as members during a period of 15 years from 1840 to 1855. Common Indians, therefore, could not benefit from the Society's library.

Cursetjee Pestonji (1844). Jagannath Shankarshet (1845)[23]
Cursetje Jamsetjee (1847). Manmohandas Devidas (1848)[24]
Bhau Daji (1852)[25] Prof. Dadabhai Nowrojee (1854)[26], and
Vinayakrao Vasudeva (1855).

Jagannath Shankarshet and Manmohandas Devidas were members of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland. Cursetjee Jamsetjee was already a subscriber of the library.

Admission of Indians to the Asiatic Society of Bengal

It is not known whether such controversy regarding

admission of Indians to the Asiatic Society of Bengal arose or not. At first the members were Europeans and Sir William Jones said in his inaugural address 'on no account to admit a new member who has not expressed a voluntary desire to become so; and in that case you will not require, I suppose, any other qualification than a love of knowledge and a zeal for the promotion of it. Whether you will enrol as members any member of learned natives you will hereinafter decide'.[27] But the question was not posed for many years. It was on January 7, 1829[38] that Dr. H.H. Wilson[29] proposed names of the following Indians, seconded by Dr. Grant and they were elected on 4th March 1829[30].

Prasanna Kumar Tagore, Dwarkanath Tagore
Sibchandra Das, Rasamay Datta, and
Ramkamal Sen.

The Ahmednagar Library

The Calcutta Public Library established in 1835 received good support from the inhabitants of Calcutta. Soon thereafter a library was established at Ahmednagar in 1838. Regarding this library Mr. Benjamin Hutt[31], Acting Judge of Ahmednagar in his letter dated 31st March 1838[32] to the Secretary to Government of Bombay states that 'the Native Community of Ahmednagar have lately formed a Society for the establishment of a General Library, an institution calculated to do a vast deal of good, but whichfrom the poverty of the people will

require some assistance in the outset.' Further he requests for 'the donation in money and a few copies of such works in the Native languages as Government may possess'.

As the object was excellent, a donation of Rupees 100/- was sanctioned to this library on 18th July 1838[33].

It was established by Captain French, Agent for Bhils at Ahmednagar. The library continued its existence till 1840 when Captain French left Ahmednagar. The library was closed for want of encouragement and funds. It was reopened in 1847[35]. In 1850, it had 41 subscribers (Europeans and Indians) from which monthly subscription of Rs. 27 Annas 7 was received. The subscription had been fixed at a very low rate in order to make the benefits of the institution more generally available to poorer classes.[36]

Three main features of the Ahmednagar Library are worth mentioning. Firstly it was established for the native community. Secondly, reading materials in the vernacular languages were sought, and thirdly cheap rate of subscription was stipulated for membership. These three aspects signify the Native and General character of the library. These aspects of a Native General Library are brought to the notice for the first time in the foundation of this library. Hence, the Ahmednagar Library is to be treated as chronologically the first Native General Library in the Bombay Presidency.

Though a native library was established at Ahmednagar, Bombay was deficient of a native general library as the attempt of the Bombay General Library was shortlived and though a beginning was made to admit Indians to the Bombay Branch, Royal Asiatic Society, only a few Indians were admitted to its membership. At the same time due to spread of educational institutions, number of persons educated at the secondary schools and colleges was increasing each year. These persons found employment in various educational institutions, commercial firms, mercantile bodies and government offices. As these people had leisure time, they wanted to read newspapers, magazines and books which were published in English aswell as in the Vernacular languages. All these factors led to the foundation of a native general library in Bombay with the name the Bombay Native General Library in 1845.

The Bombay Native General Library

The leading person in the establishment of this library was Mr. Raghoba Janardan[37], Native head clerk of the Military Board Office establishment, Bombay. He issued a prospectus in January 1845[38] saying that 'The establishment of the Military Board Office have resolved to form a Native General Library, where those who may feel disposed, especially young men, will have an opportunity of profitably disposing of their leisure hours. Although it is proposed to establish the library principally for the use of the native clerks, still

such of the European and native gentlemen as feel disposed to join and encourage the undertaking are earnestly solicited to do so. As the salaries of Natives are generally small, it is proposed that a subscription of Four Annas (Quarter of a Rupee) a month be levied. This is the lowest rate of subscription that will be received from members, but it is not limited to this. A form was circulated along with the prospectus with a request to subscribe to the library and to assist it by way of donation, either in books or money. This is how the idea of a Native General Library was originated

Raghoba's appeal was well responded to and he called a meeting of native gentlemen who had contributed to the formation of the proposed library and which was held in a house near the Trinity Chapel[39], on 23 January 1845. At this meeting a Managing Committee was appointed, committee for selection of books was formed and other necessary resolutions were passed. Among those a proper vote of thanks to Mr. Raghoba Janardan was passed 'for the spirited manner in which he had organized and carried through the measures for establishing the library.'[40]

The first committee of management[41] had 15 members, 7 Europeans and 7 Indians and Mr. John Mullaly[42] as President. This committee did preliminary work, collected donations and books, found rented rooms and the first general meeting of the members of the Native General Library was held on 7 June 1845. At this meeting the report of the Committee for the period upto 7 June 1845 and the rules of the library framed by the

Managing Committee were approved, decided to request Sir Erskine Perry, Chief Justice of Bombay to be its Patron and resolved to continue the present Committee of Management for the next year[43].

The objects of the Native General Library were two-fold[44]. "Firstly to have a place where the numerous native youths, who leave school at an early age and before they complete their studies, may have an opportunity of improving themselves by continuing their studies after entering an office or other public employment, and secondly, by the introduction of such an establishment amongst the numerous classes of natives, to encourage and foster the desire of improving their minds, by the acquisition of sound and useful knowledge, and thereby benefitting not only themselves but the whole community."

By June 1845[45], the Committee had collected 500 books, enrolled 270 subscribers, collected an amount of Rs.716-12-0 (Rs.701 as donations and Rs.15-12-0 as subscription) and purchased books, shelves and other furniture worth Rs. 517-14-2, acquired a house for Rs. 25/- rent per month, appointed a Librarian, Chowkidar, boy peon on salary of Rs.10/-, Rs.5/-, Rs.3/-, respectively and started working. The first President John Mullaly helped this infant institution in various ways. On 13th March 1845[46], he requested the Secretary to Government, General Department to allow some small government building for the use of the library and

proposed that some rooms in the Native General Hospital on the verge of the Esplanade may be given as the same will become vacant after completion of the Sir Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy Hospital. Though his efforts were unsuccessful in getting the hospital rooms, he succeeded in getting an amount of Rs. 1000/- for the purchase of books, from the Hon'ble the East India Company of the recommendation of the Bombay Government which opined that "The Library is calculated to be of great benefit to that class of the Native community in which the Hon. Court of Directors take a deep interest".[47]

Mr. John Mullaly wrote letters to all[48] appealing for support in cash and kind, obtained donations from the Governor Sir George Arthur, the Rao of Kutch, The Gayakwad of Baroda, Mount Stuart Elphinstone, Sir Charles Forbes and others, amounting to Rs. 2266/- by 8th July 1845 besides assurences of Rs. 847/-as donations[49]. Satisfied by the progress of this institute, Sir Erskine Perry, President of the Board of Education accepted the office of Patron of this institute[50].

Progress made

From the analysis of annual reports of the library, it has been observed that upto the end of 31st August 1847, the total amount received by way of donations and subscriptions reached Rs. 9922. Out of this amount, Rs.2793 were spent on books, periodicals and newspapers, Rs.502 for furniture and

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Rs. 1599 for establishment and House Rent keeping a balance of Rs.4751 with the library.

From 1st September 1847 to 31st December 1850, an amount of Rs.6139 was collected by way of subscriptions, interest on bank deposits etc. Out of this an amount of Rs.4401 was spent on books, periodicals and newspapers and Rs.3901 were spent on house rent, establishment and other charges, bringing the balance down to Rs.1720 by the end of 1852 as the income from members and subscriptions reduced to Rs.1242 in that year. By the end of 1852[51] the stock of books in the library increased to 3029 volumes. Double sets of 13 magazines and reviews were taken in addition to two other magazines subscribed newly. The number of members rose to 126 (46 of first class, 36 of second class and 6 t ird class and 38 of fourth class).

Notable event that changed the character of this institution was that of amalgamation of the library of the Students' literary and Scientific Society[52] with the Bombay Native General Library.

Framjee Cowasjee Banajee[53], a merchant by profession and interested in the spread of education, and one of the members of the Board of Education, died in 1851. A public meeting was called on 22nd Sept. 1852 at the Elphinstone College to raise a memorial of Framjee Cowasjee when Col. P.F. French was also present. In this meeting it was decided to

establish Framjee Cowasjee Institute[54] and donations were collected for this purpose. Students' Literary and Scientific Society collected a number of donations for this purpose. In the meeting it was proposed to establish the Students Dnyansaprasarak Library[55] in the Framje Cowasji Institute. Five hundred volumes, English and Vernacular were collected by the Students' Literary and Scientific Society.

As the objects originally proposed by the founders of the Students Dnyansaprasarak Library and the Bombay Native General Library were identical, Sir Erskine Perry, Patron of the Bombay Native General Library suggested to amalgamate both these libraries into one as a plan of combined exertion would work best'.[56] This suggestion was accepted by both these institutions and the amalgamation of both these institutes was carried on and the following terms of Union were agreed to[57].

1. That the Students' Literary and Scientific Society shall make over to the Native General Library, all the English books presented for the Students Library amounting to about 300 volumes on condition that all members of the Students' Literary and Scientific Society have the privilege of becoming members of the Native General Library on terms less than the ordinary rate by the amount of their subscription to the Students Literary and Scientific Society provided not less than 30 students in the first instance become members of the Native General Library.

2. That the Students Literary and Scientific Society make over all the vernacular and oriental works, presented to the Students Library, to the Native General Library, on condition that a free vernacular reading room be immediately opened in connection with the Native General Library.

3. That the Native General Library be provided with accommodation in the Framjee Cowasjee Institute when erected.

This union was effected from 1st January 1853 and seven members paying Rupees Two and 38 members paying Rupee One had entered their names in the library list before 1st January 1853. 12 members of the Students' Literary and Scientific Society who had already been subscribers at 8 Annas or 4 Annas a month increased their subscription to a higher rate[58], thereby number of members of all classes of the library have been increased except the third class to which no admissions are now permitted,.as follows

	1st Class	2nd Class	3rd Class	4th Class
1 January 1852	30	38	13	30
1 January 1853	46	36	6	38

The Students' Literary and Scientific Society further expected to see the Public Vernacular Department of the library opened[59].

By amalgamating the Students' Dnyanaprasarak Library with the Native General Library, the Library was benifitted

by a spacious building in a central locality free of rent, due to the vision of Sir Erskine Perry, its first patron who was ever watchful of its interests.

It was one of the terms of union between the library of the Students' Literary and Scientific Society and the Bombay Native General Library to start a free vernacular section of the library. Very few Indians were well versed in the English language and majority of them knew their vernacular language only. If education was to be spread to the masses, the literature in the vernacular languages should be collected and given to members of the library. This aspect about opening a vernacular section in the library was a landmark in the process of Indianisation of the library movement. It was entirely due to the efforts of Dadabhai Naoroji and others, who sponsored the Students' Dnyanaprasarak Library.

Poona Native General Library (1848).

Bombay's example was soon followed by Poona, the capital of the Peshwas. Lokahitavadi[60] (i.e. Gopal Hari Deshmukh), the Secretary of this library, recorded the history of the foundation of this library in the following words[61]:

> "Sir George Clark, Governor of Bombay requested Mr. Henry Brown[62], Judge at Poona to form a library at Poona. Mr. Brown therefore called upon a meeting

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on 28 Jan 1848 of Poona people. Sardars, Personnel from the judiciary (courts) and students and teachers from the English school at the Budhwarwada were present for the meeting. An amount of Rs.1500/- was collected later on for the library.

A committee of ten persons from among the members present at this meeting was appointed to frame rules of the library. The committee framed rules for the library and met on 4th February 1848. An essay on the 'Importance of Education' was read by one of the committee members at this meeting.

The Collector of Poona gave room to this library in the Budhwar Wada of the Peshwas, and a Library with the name 'Poona Native General Library' was established on 7th Feb. 1848. The Library possessed 300 books and 4 newspapers in March 1848".

A detailed report about the working of this library for the year 1850 was submitted to the Board of Education[63] by its Secretary Gopal Hari Deshmukh. In 1850, it had 90 subscribers and received an income of Rs. 491. Donations of Rs.1217 were collected from which books were purchased for the library.

Promotion of Native Library Movement (1849)

Captain P.T.French, acting Resident at Baroda in a letter dated 18 August 1849[64] addressed to Mr.Arthur Malet, Chief Secretary to Government of Bombay, gave an account of the formation of Baroda library in the following words:

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> "The nucleus of a library in the vernacular has lately been established in this office and it has the support of the Kewakanta Agency. The sum in hand now amounts to Rs.150 and the monthly subscription to Rs.16".

He further requests "grant of books, Hindoostanee, Guzarattee and Mahrattas from the Government".

Further he wrote

> "I hope that similar libraries to this now begun in our office, in all the collectors and judges kacheris would give much support to the cause, creating to some extent a market and increasing diffusion of books".

As this matter was related to Education, it was referred[65] to the Board of Education which remarked[66].

> "It is highly desirable that the Native Libraries should be established in the Presidency and strongly recommended the Government to contribute its support to Baroda library and to the formation of others in the different offices mentioned by Capt. French."

The Board of Education also submitted to the Government a copy of the rules of the Bombay Native General Library for the management of such libraries and brought to the notice of the Governor-in-Council that the Board of Education presented a copy of each of its publications to Native Libraries on application having been made to that effect.

The Board of Directors, it seems, having convinced about the utility of such institutions, requested the Board of Education[67] "to state their opinion on the best method of aiding in the establishment of station libraries in the principal cities of the Bombay Presidency".

Thereon Secretary of the Board of Education Dr. Stowell[68] submitted the following proposals to the Government of Bombay[69]: "The most practical method for Government to adopt for the establishment of such Native Libraries would be to request the different Zilla Judges and detached Assistant Judges to exert their influence in raising subscription among the Natives for the purpose of forming such libraries".

The Board of Education also showed willingness to present a copy of each of their publications to all Native Libraries on application being made to this effect. But beyond this amount of support, the Board expressed its inability to give further assistance, in the present state of their finances[70].

The Board of Education further stated[71] that if the Government incurrs a small extra expenditure, each library in the Deccan be supplied with a copy of any useful Marathi periodical and newspapers such as Dnyanprakash[72] (Marathi weekly) and Bodhsagar[73] (Marathi monthly) and each library in Gujarat with a similar periodicals and newspapers such as Dnyana Prasarak[74] in the Gujarati language.

The proposals of the Board of Education were accepted by the Government and accordingly a circular letter was sent to the Judges at Ahmedabad, Surat and Ahmednagar, Acting Judge at Poona and Resident at Baroda requesting 'to exert their influence in inducing the natives to contribute to the establishment of a library in their district.[75]

Dr. Stowell, Secretary of the Board of Education, further suggested to call upon the Judges and Session Judges of these towns where such libraries were formed, for sending half yearly returns, for the purpose of showing the working of the system and further that the results of such returns might be given in the Board of Education's Annual Reports".

These proposals were accepted by the Governor-in-Council with its assurance "to encourage the formation of libraries in the towns of this Presidency".[77]

Accordingly annual reports of the working of libraries were invited[78] and were published in the Board of Education's Annual reports.[79]

The usefulness of such an institution has been described by the Board of Education in the following words[80].

> "They (the libraries) seem to the Board of Educatio admirably calculated for diffusing in the course of time, much of the general knowledge of Europe among the masses of Indian Society. They are at the same time calculated to create a market to translator and

publisher as well as a general demand for literature and to give boys, after leaving school, the means not only of keeping up, but also of increasing all that they there acquired."

British Policy towards Native General Libraries

From the preceding documents, it will be interesting to study the policy of the British Government towards establishment of native general libraries, plan and agency for their establishment, and the nature and extent of assistance the Government was ready to give to these libraries.

The main object behind the establishment of Native General Libraries was to support the British Educational Policy. Captain French has described this aim as to 'give support to our cause'. This 'cause' has been explained by the Board of Education as 'diffusion of the general knowledge of the Europe among the masses of Indian Society' which is nothing but the first clause of Lord Macaulay's minute on education laying down the British Educational Policy in 1835.

Besides this main object, the establishment of native libraries had certain advantages. Firstly these libraries will create, to some extent, a market for books and publishers. It is but natural that if libraries are established, books and other reading materials will have to be purchased by the libraries resulting in the increased sale of books. The

English Publishers mostly were going to benefit from this activity, as English books published in England were mostly purchased at that time.

It will be advantageous to Translators also. As the general knowledge about Europe was in English and if that knowledge is to be given in vernaculars also, the best way, at that time was to translate an English book. Various Britishers like George Jervis,[81] Major T.Candy[82] wrote books in the vernacular languages.

Secondly, with the establishment of libraries, books will be sold, read and used especially by the students in the educational institutions and those who left the school and joine employment. This was one of the aims of the Bombay Native Genera Library and the Students' Literary and Scientific Society. Thus the libraries will also be useful to increase the knowledge of the students after leaving the schools.

As regards the plan for establishment of libraries, Captain French suggested to establish libraries 'in all the Collectors and Judges offices in the Bombay Presidency'. The Court of Directors have rightly extended this plan to 'principal district towns of the Bombay Presidency' where Collector's and Judge's offices were established.

As regards the agency and method to be adopted for establishing the libraries, the Board of Education, suggested

to request the District Judges and detached Assistant Judges to exert their influence in raising subscription among the Indians for the formation of such libraries.

It is necessary to examine why Judges, and not the Collectors and such other executives, were requested to exert their influence. Judges, as compared to Collectors, are men treated as impartial and commanded respect by the people. At that time many offices of public institutions were held by Judges. For instance the office of the President of the Board of Education was held by Sir Erskine Perry, the Chief Justice of Bombay, whereas Collectors were men of administration and therefore, their actions would have been taken as orders from the British Government, and the activity carried under the government pressure would not have acquired much public support.

Funds for Native Libraries

Sufficient funds are required to establish and manage a library. It seems that Government was not inclined to undertake this responsibility, and also to give financial support to these institutions on their own as has been the case with the establishment of English schools. It was, therefore, suggested to the Judges and Assistant Judges to exert their influence for raising subscription among the Indians for the purpose of forming such libraries under the presumption that the funds should come from the people who were going to benefit from

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the libraries and further that funds would not be forthcoming from the Indians unlessthey were persuaded to do so.

It is interesting to note that in 1850, William Ewart brought a bill before the British Parliament providing the Local Self-Govt Institutes to open Public Libraries and Museums and to levy a tax of 1/2 Penny per Pound over the income of the Local Self-Govt Institutes and which was passed in August 1850.

The Establishment of Native Libraries

As a result of this British Policy, native libraries were established in the principal cities viz at Ratnagiri, Kolhapur, Thana, Sawantwadi, Satara, Nasik, Sholapur, and Dhulia during the period from 1850 to 1855. A brief account about the foundation and working of these libfaries is given in the pages that follow.

In order to explain the utility of libraries, and to collect funds for the formation of libraries, meetings of the Indians had been convened by the Judges, Collectors and Political Agents. Prominent persons in the town such as Sardars, Jagirdars, Sahukars, Teachers, Officials in the Judges' and Collector's offices, including Europeans, attended the meeting. The Judge, or Collector or Resident was in the chair. The importance and utility of the libraries had been explained to the gathering in the English language, first.

As many Indians did not understand the English language, the same was translated into Marathi language. For example, in the meeting convened by Mr. Thomas Ogilvy, Commissioner of Satara, on 6 July 1852, Mahadeo Govinda Shastri, Esq., the Superintendent of the Government Vernacular Schools, explained in Marathi the objects of the meeting and the advantages of libraries to the Indians assembled.[93]

In these meetings, subscriptions were raised from the people for the formation of libraries and libraries were founded. Other questions such as forming a museum, provision of a room or a building for the library were also discussed. Committees were appointed to frame Rules of the Library or in some cases, rules were framed. Committee of Management and Office-bearers of libraries were appointed.

After these meetings, reports were sent to the Government regarding establishment of libraries, subscriptions collected and other decisions taken at these meetings with a request to sanction grants for these libraries. Accordingly Government of Bombay sanctioned grants to these libraries.

Following table gives the list of towns where the libraries were established with their dates of foundation, the amounts of subscriptions raised and the grants sanctioned by the Government of Bombay.

Towns where libraries were established	Date of foundation	Amount collected Rs.	Grants received from Government Rs.	Purpose of utilisation of grants
Ratnagiri	1 May 1850[84]	-	-	-
Kolhapur	15 June 1850[85]	4000[85]	1000[86]	-
Thana	1 April 1851[87]	444	-	-
Sawantwadi	15 April 1852[88]	846[89]	200[90]	-
Satara	6 July 1852[91] 24 August 1852 (Working started)	1200[92]	1200[93]	-
Nasik	29 Jan. 1853[94,95]	Monthly[96] subscription Rs. 5	300[97]	For purchase of books
Sholapur	28 Jan 1853[98]	2700[99]	300[100]	For purchase of books
Dhulia	1854[101]	-	-	-

Libraries in Bombay

Due to the impetus given by the Bomfd of Education in 1850, for the formation of native libraries in the Bombay Presidency, 9 reading rooms, book clubs and libraries were established upto 1854 in the Island of Bombay as follows[102]
(Details given in Table No. 1)

Year of Establishment	Name of the Library
1851	Marthapeeady Book Club[103]
1851	Cavel Book Club.
1852	Bombay Native Library and Reading room.
1852	Native Book Club.
1852	Juvenile Improvement Library
1853	Native Benevolent Library.
1853	Students Native Library
1853	Native Improvement Library
1854	Library and Reading Room (Hexagnon)

As regards location of these libraries, 4 libraries were situated within an area of 1/2 mile, 2 within an area of 3/4 mile, one within a distance of one mile and one was situated 3 miles away from the Bombay Native General Library.

This establishes the fact that the libraries should be within easy reach of every reader and hence it is necessary to establish libraries at different localities in a town like Bombay. No single library can cater to the needs and tastes of all the readers in a big town.

The Founders

As the Judges and other British Officers were requested to form the libraries, credit for establishing the libraries goes to these officials. Thus the Acting Political Superintendent of Kolhapur Henry Lecon Anderson[104] laid the foundation

of the Kolhapur Native Library (1850) and when transferred to Sawantwadi as Political Superintendent, started the Sawantwadi Native Library (1852). At Satara, Sholapur and Thana, the lead was taken by (1) Mr. Thomas Ogilvy[105], Commissioner of Satara, (2) Mr. Thomas Moore, Head Clerk in the Office of the Judge and Mr.C.M.Harrison[106], the Judge and Sessions Judge at Sholapur, and (3) Mr. R.Keays[107] the Judge at Thana respectively.

The Ratnagiri Native Library had already started working under the direction of Ramchandra Dinanathji, Master in the English School, since 1850. But the work of establishing the library on sound footing was done by Mr.George Coles[108], Collector of Ratnagiri and C.H.Cameron[109] Acting Senior Assistant Judge,Ratnagiri.

At Nasik, the phenomena was different. There were two libraries, one library Nasik Hindu Library was established by Laxman Nrisimha Joshi, Government School Master at Nasik and Babajee Nagpurkar, a Pandit by profession, in January 1853[110]. The Bombay Government sanctioned a grant of Rs.300 to this library for purchase of books on application being made to this effect.[111]

Another library at Nasik was established by Ramkrishna Antaji, a native Christian. He wanted to cooperate with the library established by Mr.Laxman Nrisimha Joshi on the condition that he should be elected the President of the

Managing Committee and be vested with two votes. But this proposal was disapproved by a majority in the meeting and therefore he established a separate library. As this library was not visited by people, he solicited reconciliation with the first library and the two libraries were amalgamated[112].

But as they were not successful in their endeavours, they convened a meeting of the people and established a Native General Library[113] on 29 January 1853. Monthly subscription of Rs.5 was collected in this meeting and Govind Trimbak Dharmadhikari[114] was elected as its Secretary.

Mr. H.L.Jenkins[115], the Collector of Nasik promoted the cause of the library by holding a general meeting at which Sardars, Jagirdars, Shastrees, and Sahukars were present and declaredtheir support to the library.

In 1853, attempt made by Mr.F.W. Smart, Judge and Sessions Judge of Khandesh to start a Native Library at Dhulia was not successful. He reported that Indians showed most improper spirit and Europeans did not subscribe as much as they can as they put down amounts 4 As, 2 As, 1 As on the subscription list. He therefore struck down his name from the subsctipti n list and did not make any further effort to establish the library.[116] It seems that this work was undertaken by Mr. Arthur Saint John Richardson, the District Judge and conducted the library at his own expenses. It was

later on entrusted to the Managing Committee of the English School (Established 1853) in 1854. In view of the laudable services rendered in the cause of education and public enlightenment, the English School Committee named the library as "Richardson Library and Reading Room" in Feb. 1855. The library and the English School were under the same roof and the library was mostly used by the pupils in the English School.[117]

Missionary Efforts at Bombay

At Bombay, out of the 9 libraries established newly, 6 libraries were established by Christian Missionaries mostly for the Christian Converts and students studying in Schools and Colleges managed by Christian Missionaries. The Charter Act of 1813 opened India to the missions from U.K. only but the Charter Act of 1833 opened India to traders and missionaries from all over the world. Consequently missions of the nations came to India and conducted a large number of English schools as a means of spreading the Gospel. Indian pupils joined the mission schools not for the sake of religious instruction but to learn English with a view to secure employment under the Government. We find plentiful conversions that took place in these institutions during this period. These missionaries had attempted to establish libraries especially for native converts and pupils in the schools conducted by Missions, at Bombay.

The Management of Libraries

Rules were framed for the conduct of the libraries, regarding membership, rates of subscription, issue of books and periodicals, library hours, election of office-bearers and the Committee of Management and the business to be transacted at the Annual Meetings.

Rules of the Bombay Native General Library passed in 1845 contained 34 rules[118]. These were modifed in 1847[119] and 1853[120]. A copy of these rules was sent by the Board of Education to allthe native libraries established in the mofussil during 1850 proving a model for these libraries in framing their rules[121]. The rules of the Sawantwadi Native Library were lithographed and contained 19 rules[122]. The rules of the Poona Native General Library were also lithographed but we do not get the original copy. We get some indication about its rules in its report submitted to the Board of Education in 1850[123].

The libraries were managed by a Committee of Management elected from amongst the members. The first Committee of Management of the Bombay Native General Library was composed of 6 Europeans and 6 Indians with Mr.John Mullaly as its President. This composition of the committee of management was changed to 3 Indians and 3 Europeans in 1853[124], Europeans forming majority upto 1850. In the mofussil, it was constituted of about 4 to 7 members of whom majority was of

Indians. Individuals connected with the field of education persons from various religious sects, language groups and professions were represented on the Committee of Management. As these libraries were established by Britishers and as the support from the Government was required for the development of the libraries, the Offices of President and Vice President were mostly given to European Judges or other officers. For example at the Bombay Native General Library the Office of the President was held by Europeans from 1845 to 1850. Mr. Narayan Dinanathjee[125] was the first Indian to be elected as President in 1850. Sir Erskine Perry[126] Chief Justice of Bombay, was its first Patron.

The Office of the Secretary of the Bombay Native General Library was held by Europeans upto 1852. Mr.E.Maidment worked as Secretary from 1847 to 1850. Mr.Sorabjee Furdoonjee held the office of Collector and Accountant for two and a half years upto September 1850. For the valuable services rendered to the library, Mr. E. Maidment and Mr. Sorabjee Furdoonjee were presented with an amount of Rs.300 and 50 respectively in 1850[127].

But, in the mofussil, the post of Secretary was held mostly by Indians like Gopal Hari Deshmukh, a liberalist and Social reformer (Poona), Vishnu Moreshwar Bhide (Satara), Govind Trimbak Dharmadhikari (Nasik), Ramchandra Dinanathjee, Master in the English School (Ratnagiri)(5 years), Ganpatrao Jairam (Thana'-1855) and Narayan Ballal Limaye, Headmaster of the English School (Dhulia). At Sholapur, Thomas Moore, Head

Clerk in the Judge's Office held this post for about 6 years (1853 - 1857).

A clerk or librarian was appointed to carry on the day-to-day work of the library. The pay of the clerk at the Sholapur Native Library was fixed as Rs.6. per month. But as it was difficult to procure a person with requisite qualifications, for the salary of Rs. 6., the Committee of Management decided to raise the salary to Ten Rupees per month for a person who had adequate knowledge of English and Marathi[128].

Members and their privileges

Admission to these libraries was not restricted to a particular caste or creed. It was open to all Indians as well as to the Europeans on payment of subscriptions. Members were divided into various classes like the First, the Second and the Third Class. The class of a member depended on the amount of subscription paid by the member. Besides the Members, there was a class of Subscribers in some libraries. All members were on par as far as election to the committee of management was concerned. They had right to vote and were eligible for contesting the election to the Committee of Management. But they had varying privileges as far as reading facilities were concerned.

Rules of the Bombay Native General Library

Bombay Native General Library was composed of Members contributing an annual subscription of Rs.12 or more and

Subscribers contributing less than One Rupee per month, the minimum rate of subscription being 4 Annas per month or 3 Rupees per year (Rules 1,2).[133]

Members had the privilege of taking out of the library Reviews for one week and Magazines for three days (Rule 8). Members could take two complete works at a time for a period of seven days with facility of perusal of new books first (Rule 10).

To subscribers, one complete set of books was issued for a period of seven days (Rule 11). Newspapers were kept on the library table for perusal of all and were not issued out of the library (Rule 9).

By June 1845, 270 subscribers were enrolled but an amount of Rs.15-12-0 was collected by way of subscription in spite of repeated reminders, majority never paid their subscription and in many cases works were returned "damaged to an amount that a year's subscription would not repay".[134]

The rules of the library, therefore, were amended in September 1847[135] by which the privilege of 4 Anna subscribers of taking out one volume for home reading was withdrawn and they were entitled only to read in the library with change in designation to 'Reader'. A new class of 8 Annas Subscriber was created with the privilege of taking out one set of books at a time and to read in the library. Further First Class members were entitled to perusal of periodicals and books

first and to take two sets of books at a time while the Second class members were entitled to periodicals and new works after circulation to the first class members and to take two sets of works at a time (Rule 1). Thus the library was composed of members of First and Second class with right to vote at the general body meeting and to hold the office. The class of subscribers and readers had no right to vote or to hold office.

The names of members and subscribers who did not pay their subscription were struck off the list and hence the number of members on the role of the library was reduced. But the income of the library was not reduced as many subscribers especially Four Annas Subscribers did not pay their subscription. This is evident from the following figures.[136]

	On 1st Sept. 1847		On 1st March 1849	
	Number	Monthly subscription Rs	Number	Monthly subscription Rs
Members	142	142-0-0	77	117-4-0
Subscribers	240	60-0-0	64	21-12-0
	382	202-0-0*	141	139-0-0

*Of this however the collection averaged only Rs.130 per month.

These rules were again modified on 27 April 1849[137] by which the issue of books was restricted to Members paying

One Rupee per month only and all contributors below that rate were allowed the use of books etc. to be read in the library. This rule was not made applicable to subscribers paying 8 annas monthly on roll of the library on 17 April 1849. Number of Members and subscribers on 31 Dec. 1850 was 80 and 51 with monthly subscription of Rs.125 and 17 respectively.[138] In 1847, the procedure for admission of members was changed. Every person desirous of becoming a member was to be proposed and seconded by members of the library and thereafter to be elected by ballot.[139] (Same procedure laid down by the [illegible]). But this procedure was not followed by the Secretary as it was found inconvenient and the Secretary admitted persons of his own. Therefore in 1852, this procedure for admission to subscribers was changed. No ballot was necessary and the Secretary was authorised to admit the applicant on his own responsibility or submit to the committee of management for its decision.[140]

All these modifications were incorporated in the rules and regulations passed at a general meeting held on 18 July 1853.[141]

Thus within a period of seven years the rules of the library were changed thrice and modifications were made based on the experience gained and response received from members and subscribers.

The Poona Native General Library had 3 classes of members

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with varying subscriptions rates and privileges as under[142]

Class of members	Amount of subscription per month	Privileges
1	Rs. 1/-	1. One volume each of two sets of books at a time, to be returned in one week. 2. Periodicals for a period of 3 days. 3. Perusal of New books first.
2.	Rs. 1/2	1 Two volumes of two sets of books at a time and magazines etc in and out of the library after circulation to the 1st Class subscribers.
3.	Rs. 1/4	1 Use of only one volume of a set of books at a time and periodicals etc. in the library.

At Sawantwadi[143] provision was made to issue books and magazines to persons living in the neighbourhood places. Ratnagiri had 4 classes of members and subscribers of 2 Rs., One Rs., 1/2 Rupee and 4 Annas respectively.[144]

From the above it seems that the rules of the Bombay Native General Library were followed in toto by libraries at Sawantwadi and Ratnagiri while other libraries modified the rules to suit the local conditions.

Both the Europeans as well as Indians were members of these libraries. The Indians formed the majority which is evident from the following figures.

Town	Year	Europeans	Indians	Total
Nasik	1854-55	5	37	42
Ratnagiri	1854-55	10	34	44
Thane	1852-53	11	82	93
Thane	1854-55	11	59	70
Ahmednagar	1851-52	9	46	55
Ahmednagar	1852-53	9	51	60
Sawantwadi	1852-53	4	29	31

Break-up of the members by classes throw light on the composition of members by their income group.

Town	Year	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	Total
Poona	1851-52	22	16	52	-	90
Ratnagiri	1854-55	2	11	5	26	44

It is observed that many Europeans paid the subscription at the highest rate either Rs. 1/- per month or Rs. 2/- per month.

In case of Bombay Libraries other than the Bombay Native General Library, there were two classes of subscribers, and the rates of subscription per month ranged from 2 Annas to 8 Annas for second class subscribers and from 3 Annas to one Rupee for First Class Subscribers.

At Bombay the subscribers by profession were clerks and other personnel from mercantile offices and administrative

departments of the British Government. Persons working in educational institutions such as teachers in schools and colleges enrolled with these libraries. Students studying in various educational institutions also took advantage of these libraries by becoming generally the second class members in order to promote reading habit and to gain useful knowledge of that day. These subscribers came from all castes and creeds in Bombay - the Hindus, Parsees, Muslims, Europeans, Indo-Britons, Native Converts, Christians, Portuguese were the chief beneficiaries. Majority of the subscribers come from lower income group whose monthly income ranged from Rs. to Rs. In the mofussil, seths, sahukars and sardars enrolled as members mostly due to influence of British Officers who promoted the libraries.

Library Finance

Total number of subscribers and amount of monthly subscriptions received by the libraries at District towns were as follows

Town	Year	No. of subscribers	Subscription per month Rs.	As.	P.
Ahmednagar	1850-51	41	27	7	0
	1851-52	55	26	12	0
	1852-53	60	30	0	0
Ratnagiri	1851-52	78	8	0	0
	1854-55	44	25	0	0

Contd...

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Town	Year	No. of subscribers	Subscription per month Rs. As. P.
Thana	1851-52		45 - 4 - 0
	1854-55	70	51 -12 - 0
Poona	1851-52	90	43 - 0 - 0
	1855-56	112	60 - 0 - 0
Satara	1854-55	90	892 - 0 - 0 (From July 1852 to Dec. 1854)
Sawantwadi	1852-53	33	27 - 8 - 0
Sholapur	1854-55	57	27 - 0 - 0
	1857-58	67	36 - 0 - 0
Nasik	1854-55	42	30 - 0 - 0
Kolhapur	1851-52 ?	17	15 - 0 - 0

At Bombay, the number of subscribers ranged from 15 to 61 in case of 8 libraries. Only the Native Book Club had 150 subscribers. From these members the libraries received meagre subscriptions which were supplemented by donations from persons of philanthropic attitude. This is evident from the fact that the amount of monthly expenditure of these librariesvaried from Rs.3 to Rs.25 per month.

From the subscriptions received from members each month, the current expenses of the library on items like the establishment charges, purchase of books and newspapers,

house rent, postage and other contingent charges were hardly met. Following are the amounts of expenditure spent by the libraries for the current expenses.

Town	Year	Periodicals	Books	Estt charges	House rent	Cont. Exp.	Postage
Thana	1852-53	19	182	156	72	62	129
Thana	1854-55	19	59	156	72	74	148
Poona	1850-51	155	1217*	197	Nil	141	-
Poona	1851-52	122	-	237	Nil	31	-
Nasik	1858	30	-	96	Nil	2	7
Ratnagiri	1854-55	-	-	72	12+	-	24
Ahmednagar	1854-55	79**		198+			
Satara	1854-55	803++					

Notes - Amounts less than a Rupee have not been considered in the above mentioned figures.

* - From donations collected.

** - Books and N.P.

\+ - Current expenses

++ - Estt. postage, contingent charges and periodicals.

From this statement, it can be observed that very small amount was spent on purchase of books from the monthly subscriptions received and therefore new books could not be added.

In order to acquire a basic collection of new books for the library and to supplement it by additions of fresh

books from time to time, special funds were collected from members and wealthy persons in the town in cash or in kind as follows

Town	Year	Amount collected Rs.	Amount spent on Books Rs.	
Ahmednagar	1850-51	730	323	Oriental publications
	1851-52		400	Books from England
Poona	1850-51	1217	1217	
	1851-52	1076	912	
Thane	1851-52	444	444	
Sholapur	1856-57	196 (162 Europeans 14 Indians)	197	
Satara	Upto Dec 1854	4013	3293	On 1) Building a new room 2) Purchase of nglish, Marathi, Sanskrit books 3) Furniture 4) Specimens for museum

The Reading Materials

From these amounts, new books were purchased for the libraries both from England and India. Most of these books

were in English and were purchased from England. The British Officers proceeding on leave to England were requested to buy new books on behalf of the library, [illegible] and necessary advances fro the Library funds were made to them.

As compared to the books in English, the number of vernacular books was less. This was obviously due to limited production of books in the vernacular languages and the Europeans who sponsored these libraries, preferred English books. For example, out of the 2177 books possessed by the Poona Native General Library in 1851-52, 1900 books were in English and 257 books were in vernacular languages. During this year, 147 books in English and 72 books in vernacular languages were added.

Besides these purchases, books were added by way of donations, from the Government of Bombay, the Board of Education, the Editors of Newspapers, other institutions and individuals.

The Poona Native General Library had the largest collection of 2177 books in 1852 as against Ratnagiri having 428 books (1854-55), Thana 875 books (1854-55), Satara 934 books (1854-55) and Sholapur 631 books (1857-58). Number of books possessed by the Bombay Libraries ranged from 250 to 2500 and about 50% books were added by way of purchases made from cash donations and 50% books were added by way of donations from various

individuals. Most of the books were in English, with very few (30 to 150) in the vernacular languages.

At Bombay, majority of the books related to fiction, novels and tales but a portion of books related to History, Biography, Travels, religion and Science.

Newspapers and Magazines

Newspapers and magazines in the English language both from India and from England were acquired. Prominent among them were the newspapers from Bombay such as the Bombay Government Gazette, the Bombay Times, the Bombay Courier and newspapers fromother places like The Friend of India (Calcutta), the Home news, The Poona Observer. Similarly newspapers and magazines in the vernacular languages were provided for the Indian members including the following - The Dnyanaprakash (Poona, Rs.10/- per year), The Dnyanodaya (Bombay, Rs.3/-), The Dnaynaprosarak, The Prabhakar (Bombay), the Vartamannapatra Dipika, the Dhoomketu.

From the amounts spent on Newspapers and magazines, it is observed that a few (2 to 10) newspapers and magazines were acquired for the library except the Native Book Club, Bombay which subscribed to 19 periodicals in 1853.

Some Europeans subscribed to English newspapers for personal use and later on donatedthem to the libraries. Thus through the favour of Lieutenant Cowley, Sholapur Native

Library received two magazines free of charge.[145] Postage on newspapers and magazines formed a heavy burden on the library purse as the postal rates were too high. Thane Native Library had to pay the maximum amount on postage (Rs. 148-12-0 postage on periodicals whose subscription amounted to Rs.109.)[146] A few newspapers therefore, were subscribed for, the rest being supplied gratis by some Europeans, Indian members and Editors.

Magazine Club[147]

As the funds at disposal were few, the Bombay Native General Library could not subscribe to various periodicals and magazines required by members. Therefore, the library started a club for supplying monthly and quarterly periodicals in 1847. Members of this club had to pay a subscription of Rupee One per month. They were also treated as members of the library paying one Rupee per month. The periodicals were, in the first instance,circulated to the club members and later on presented to the library for use of other readers. 32 members participated in this activity. 12 monthlies and 4 quarterlies with duplicate copies were subscribed under this scheme. Average monthly expenditure came to Rs.44/- out of which Rupees 32 were paid by the club and the library had to contribute Rs.12 per month.

This is merely for the early perusal of periodicals. Many Europeans were members of the library and they were

interested in reading reviews and magazines from England. First class members paying Rs.2 p.m. were entitled to perusal of periodicals first. The reviews to be returned within one week and the magazines within 3 days. Therefore the Second Class members paying Rupee one per month could read periodicals after a very long time, causing great inconvenience to them. By establishing the Magazine Club, requirements of the second class members were met with some benefit to the library.

The Use of the Libraries

There was poor attendance of the Indians in the library. For example at Sholapur in 1854-55[148], "for some time ten to twelve persons regularly attended, at other times two or three and frequently none at all". Libraries at Ahmednagar, Ratnagiri and Poona were frequented by pupils of the Government English and Vernacular Schools. It was therefore a serious drawback for these libraries. One of the reasons for poor attendance was the lack of books in the vernacular languages in these libraries. The Judge at Sholapur therefore directed the Secretary of the Sholapur Native Library to increase the stock of vernacular books[149] "in order to make the library answer the purpose for which it has been established". Similarly, there were few Indians who could read English books. At Poona Native General Library in 1853[150] the current local and presidency periodicals were eagerly sought and read by the Indians. As regards books, novels were

much appreciated by the Indo-British community and soldiery. Same was the liking at Thana, Sholapur and other towns. Science and historical works were much read particularly by the young students of the Poona College in 1853. However, books about History and Biography were most appreciated by the Indian readers at Poona during 1850-51 and 1851-52.[151] In other libraries, books about History, Biography and Travels were read besides fiction. At Bombay, libraries were open in the morning and in the evening and the number of persons attended ranged from 5 to 50.

Museum

It was decided to organise a Museum along with the library at Kolhapur[152] and Satara[153]. The Museum consisted of articles like Globe, apparatus for chemical experiments, microscope, sawgins, steam engines, scientific specimens in mineralogy, geology. These articles, implements and instruments were useful to demonstrate the various developments that took place in Europe in the field of Science and technology. The purpose of diffusion of knowledge about Europe was thus to be achieved. The inspiration to organise museums might have been taken from the museum of the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society. In England also, movement was started to establish museums and art galleries in 1850's.

Buildings for the libraries

From the subscriptions raised, by the people,

and Ratnagiri were built. At Satara, the room donated by Raniasheb of Satara was repaired and an additional room was built for the library[154]. At Sholapur, a building jointly for the library and the English School was built at a cost of Rs.2000[155]. A plot of land was donated[156] for this purpose on request[157] from Mr.Thomas C Loughnan[158], the Collector of Sholapur. At Ahmednagar, an old Masjid was repaired at the cost of Rs. 210 and made suitable for accommodating the library[159]. The library at Thana was accommodated in rented rooms[160]. Rent of Rs.72/- was paid annually. Accommodation was provided free of rent to the Poona Native General Library in the Budhwar Palace and to the Nasik Native General Library in the New palace[161]. An expenditure of Rs.30 was incurred for repairing a room for the Nasik Library by the Government.[162]

At Ratnagiri, an amount of Rs.500 was collected by Indians for erecting a building in 1853. As the funds collected were not sufficient for its completion, European residents were requested to contribute generously and an additional amount was collected from them in June 1854. The land for the building was given by Mr. Govind Vasudev Barve. The building was completed in July 1854 and the library was opened on 4th August, 1854 in the new premises.[163]

Progress of Native Libraries

By the end of 1855, there were 10 Native Libraries in the mofussil besides 10 in Bombay. Thus the library movement spread over to 11 towns in Western Maharashtra. The libraries

in the mofussil possessed about 10000 volumes in the whole and enrolled about 650 subscribers[164]. Three libraries had buildings of their own and the remaining were accommodated in rented rooms. There was poor attendance of readers in the libraries and the issue of books was limited. The finances were poor. The membership was open to all.

Most of the Bombay libraries were small libraries and were founded by Europeans and missionaries with the object of making reading less expensive. The finances were meagre and therefore, these libraries could not develop rapidly.

However, the library of the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, the Bombay Native General Library and the Poona Native General Library made good progress during this period.

This progress has been made with the assistance and support of the Europeans as well as the Indians, the Board of Education and the Government of Bombay. An account of the support, the nature of support received by these libraries is given below.

Assistance from the British Government

The British policy was to encourage the native general libraries with minimum financial assistance. This is evident from the following donations given to the Native General Libraries at Kolhapur (Rs. 1000/-), Satara (Rs.1200/-), Nasik (Rs.300/-), Sholapur (Rs.300/-), Sawantwadi (Rs.200/-).

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From these amounts, it can be observed that the assistance given to libraries in the Native States was more than the assistance given to libraries at other towns. But this assistance was not given from the Government treasury. At Kolhapur, the assistance given was treated as contribution from the Young Prince of Kolhapur and his brother and at Sawantwadi, the assistance was treated as contribution from the Sardesai, Chief of Sawantwadi State and his family and that too, was given from the Sawantwadi treasury. The assistance given to libraries at other towns was nominal. In 1850 members of the Poona Native General Library requested the Governor-in-Council at Bombay to sanction a donation of Rs.5000/- for purchase of books out of the accumulated balance of the Dakshina Fund and to sanction a grant of Rs.300/- per annum, to the library[165]. This request, however, was not granted[166]. The Bombay Native General Library received a grant of Rs.1000/- in 1846 may be due to influence of Sir Erskine Perry, its Patron and many Europeans were members of this library.

Assistance from the Board of Education

The support of the Board of Education was also limited to the presentation of copies of each of their publications to all the native libraries on application being made to that effect. For example a copy of the Acts of the Government of India, circular orders of the Sudder Dewani Adalat, Reported cases and similar publications printed by the Government were supplied to the Poona Native General Library and the Thana

Library during 1851-52.[167] A set of maps and a copy of each of the Board's vernacular publications were presented to the libraries at Sawantwadi, Nasik, Poona and to seven more native libraries established in Bombay during the year 1853-54[168]. The Board of Education received copies of all works printed by the Government of North-Western provinces and at the desire of that Government, distributed them to public libraries in the Bombay Presidency[169].

Encouragement and Support by the Britishers

Though the support from the British Government and the Board of Education was nominal, the Europeans and various officers of the Bombay Government encoureged and supported the cause of native libraries by taking active part in the foundation of libraries, by becoming members of these libraries of higher class, by paying donations in cash and in kind, by providing accommodation for the libraries and even by managing the affairs of libraries as office-bearers of the libraries etc. For instance, Europeans became members of these libraries and paid the subscription at the higher rate such as First Class etc. which was a constant source of income to libraries. At Thane[170] many civil servants paid the monthly subscription at Rs.3 each. They themselves made little use of the library but gave tickets to those of their subordinates who wanted to use the library but could not afford to pay even the lowest monthly subsbription.

Mr. Tarquand[171], sub-collector of Nasik paid a subscription of Rs. 10/- per month as an example to the men of rank and position and induced people to support it.[172]

Many Europeans gave donations in cash to support the library. Mr. K. Jenkins, sub-collector of Nasik paid Rs. 50/- at the initial stage of the Nasik Native library and another Rs. 50 at his transfer.[173]

Number of books were donated to these libraries by British Officers at the inception of the library or at their transfers to another places or while going back to England besides donation of newspapers and magazines subscribed for private use.

They also provided accommodation to the libraries at Poona and Nasik in the Government Buildings free of charge. Buildings or rooms were constructed for libraries at Sawantwadi, Kolhapur, Ratnagiri, Sholapur with the support of the enlightened British Officers at those places. On the recommendation of British Officers, some libraries received donations from the Bombay Government either for erection of building or for purchase of books. They also compiled and submitted annual reports of libraries to the Government of Bombay and the Board of Education from time to time. Besides the financial support, they led these libraries (at various places) by accepting the offices of the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary and as members of the Committee of Management of these

Europeans contributed to the foundation and progress of the Bombay Native General Library. For example Mr. John Mullely, first President of the Bombay Native General Library collected donations worth Rs.3000/- within a period of two years of its inception and led the foundation of the library on sound financial basis. Mr. Erskine Perry, Chief Justice of Bombay, the President of the Board of Education worked as the First Patron of the Bombay Native General Library and contributed an amount of Rs.500/- at the beginning of the library and an amount of Rs.500/- while returning to England in 1852 besides paying Rs.100 subscription annually. By his efforts, the Bombay Dnyanaprasarak Library of the Students' Literary and Scientific Society was amalgamated with the Bombay Native General Library.

Captain P.T.French, founder of the Ahmednagar Native Library plays an important role in the promotion of Library movement in the Bombay Presidency. He worked for the progress of the Baroda Library. Credit must be given to Captain P.T. French for making the suggestion to establish libraries in the Bombay Presidency. Acceptence of the proposal of Captain P.T. French by the Government of Bombay and the Board of Education in 1850 has made great impact on the growth of the library movement in the Bombay Presidency. Within a period of 5 years, 9 libraries were established newly at the district towns in the Bombay Presidency besides 8 in Bombay. Captain French as member of the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, while in

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Bombay from 1848-52 made vigorous efforts to reduce the membership subscription of the Bombay Branch Royal Asiatic Society and also to extend its Library facilities to the Indian students in Bombay (Details given in Chapter 5, p).

Participation of the Indians

The Indians participated in the affairs of these libraries as members, in the Committee of Management, as Secretary and paid subscriptions for the formation and development of these libraries, mostly by way of compulsion from the British Officers. From the reports of the working of these libraries, it seems that the Indians, with some exceptions, showed but little interest in these institutions. Regarding the Ahmednagar Library, following remark has been recorded[174]

> "There is not among the natives themselves (with a few exceptions) as much interest taken in its welfare as one could wish to see'. The Natives are glad enough to see it (the library) prosper, but they would not go far out of their way to assist in its prosperity'. 'It is more appreciated that it is used to be'.

Pioneer in the Native General Library Movement

In the words of Mr. Rowrosjee Furdoonjee[175], Bombay Native General Library has performed the part of a Pioneer.[176] Many libraries were established in the Island of Bombay following this example. The Ahmednagar library was revived in 1847 and libraries were established in Poona and Baroda in

Native General Library might have prompted Captain French to establish library at Baroda and to request the Government to start native libraries in the presidency.

This library proved a model for other libraries to copy in respect of framing the rules of the library, the pattern of membership with varying amounts of subscription and privileges, cheaper rate of subscription to persons of low income group, liberal rules for admission of members, etc. The native libraries established during 1850 and 1855 in the Bombay Presidency had incorporated most of these features into their rules and working with certain modifications to suit local needs. The needs of the Indians were taken into consideration because minimum rate of subscription of 4 annas per month was prescribed for membership as the income of the Indians was low. This is an important aspect for a public library to consider. If more people were to take advantage of a public library, financial condition of the people and their capacity to pay would be taken into consideration. It is significant that the principles on which the Bombay General Library had been founded were deeply absorbed in the establishment of the Bombay Native General Library.

Through the Bombay Native General Library was established principally for the Indians, the Indians did not take advantage of this library as was expected by the founders. Many 4 Anna subscribers did not pay their subscription and books were damaged and not returned. This behaviour of the

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members resulted into withdrawal of the facility given to 4 Anna subscribers to take one set of books for home reading within a period of two years from its inception. According to me this was a retrograde step. Indians were not accustomed to visit a library and reading of books. Orientation to the readers in the use of books and the library was necessary. This was not done. Subsequently a class of 8 Annas subscribers was created and the privileges extended to 4 Anna subscribers in 1845 were extended to them in 1847. Even this class of 8 Annas subscribers was withdrawn by 1850 and members paying One Rupee subscription per month were eligible for taking books home. Thus the intention of the founders to give reading materials home at a cheaper rate was neglected.

Under these circumstances the benefits of this library were reaped by the Europeans, as they selected magazines and Reviews from England to suit their choice, started the Magazine Club, purchased books from England. By the rules framed in 1847, even ballot was required for admission of members to the library which is nothing but a copy of the procedure laid down by the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society. In this way, the Europeans, to a certain extent, dominated the affairs of the library as they had majority in the Committee of Management. This supposition is supported by the following instance.

On 6th July 1850, the Secretary of the Students' Literary and Scientific Society (in his letter to the Secretary to Government, General Department) requested the

Governor in Council to assist the Society in establishment of a Lending Library by giving them copies of oriental and/or other works in their possession.[177] To this request, querry was made by the Government of Bombay and the Secretary was requested to inform of the necessity of establishing a separate library since members of the Society were eligible to become members of the Native General Library.[178]. In reply to this querry, the Secretary of the Students' Dnyanaprasarak Library, Bombay stated the objects of the institution and further clarified that 'it is no longer the members of an English Society that we contemplated to benefit but also the immense masses who are only acquainted with their vernacular languages. From the objects of the institution, it will be evident that the plan of our library is much more extensive than that of the Native General Library which is almost exclusively an English Institution.'[179]

Condition of Native Libraries

Regarding the condition of the libraries in the mofussil, the Director of Public Instruction in his report for the year 1855-56 remarked as follows[180]

> "These institutions in the majority of cases hardly deserve the name of libraries, and should rather be termed Reading Rooms. Their funds are chiefly devoted to the purchase of newspapers and periodicals, and for books, they mostly rely on donations from Government and individuals.

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> The only other library in the mofussil which deserve separate notice is that of Poona. The average monthly receipts amount to upwards of Rs. 60. 343 English Books and 32 vernacular publications were added to the library in the course of the year 1855-56. Six English newspapers were taken in and two Marathi. The total number of subscribers was 112, paying from One Rupee to Four Annas per month. The total receipts amounted to Rs.1540-3-7. Expenditure to Rs.849 on books and periodicals and Rs.150 for establishment".

A movement from above

From all this discussion, it may be concluded that the native libraries were established at the instance of British Government and Officers. At the beginning Indians showed interest in these libraries but later on that interest declined mainly due to the non-availability of reading materials in the vernacular languages, their financial position and thirdly, people were not habituated to reading either books or newspapers. Therefore the libraries made little progress as was expected by the Government. Nothing more could be achieved when the movement was from above and not from within.

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NOTES

1. Natarajan, J. History of Indian journalism. Part II of the Report of the Press Commission, 1955, pp. 6-7, 30-31.

2. Nurullah, Syed and Naik, J.P. History of education in India during the British period. 1943 pp. 93-96, 130-135.

3. Ibid. p.135.

4. H.B.M. May 1, 1854 to April 30, 1855. pp. 22-23. H.B.P.I. 1855-56. p. 223.

5. Bombay Government. A review of education in Bombay State, 1855-1955, 1958. p.10.

6. Stocqueler, Joachim Hayward (1800-1885) (Pseudonym of Joachim Hayward Siddons). Compiler and journalist. About 1819, He said for calcutta and spent next 23 years upto 1847 in India. Attached to military service. Arrived Bombay 1827. Started the journal Iris (meaning Rainbow) in 1827. Editor, Bombay Courier. Left Bombay in 1831 and toured West Asia, South Europe and reached London. Arrived in Calcutta in Jan 1833. Edited the magazines 'The Calcutta Herald (Weekly), the 'Englishman' (1833), The 'Bengal Sporting Magazine,' the 'Oriental Observer', the 'East Indian United Service Journal' (1833), the 'Indian Racing Calender'(1838). In 1843 he returned to London. During 1855-56 he lectured on the Crimean War. Newspaper correspondent during the American War. During this period wrote more than 15 books on History, Travels etc.

7. Stocqueler, J.H. Memoirs of a Journalist, 1873. pp.66-70.

8. These are apparently commercial libraries.

9. The Bombay Courier. XI (No.1995) November 20, 1830. pp.369-370. Columns 1-4. Contains a verbatim report about the proceedings of the meeting of the Bombay General Library held on 15th November 1830. The same was reprinted in the Government Gazette (Calcutta) of December 20, 1830. An account of this library has also been published in the book Chhedar, A.K. The growth of the Library in Modern India, 1498-1836. 1966).

10. Bombay Courier. December 11, 1830. p. 392.

11. Stocqueler, J.H. op.cit. p.107.

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12. A meeting was held on 31st August 1835 to consider the question of erection of a public library in the city of Calcutta. A provisional committee of the Calcutta Public Library was appointed in this meeting of which James Stocqueler was appointed the Honorary Secretary.

Accordingly, subscriptions were raised, accommodation found, books were collected, the library staff appointed and the Calcutta Public Library was formally opened to the public on 21st March 1836.

A detailed account of the efforts made by J.B. Stocqueler for the establishment of the Calcutta Public Library can be found in the publications. Obdedar A.K. The Growth of the Library in Modern India, 1498-1836. (1966 Kesavan, B.S. India's National Library. (1961)

13. In order to verify this statement, a search was made in the minute book of the Literary Society of Bombay (BBRAS) for the years 1830-35. It revealed that the following resolution proposing restrictions on the admission of members to the Society was rejected in the meeting held on 11th August 1830. This event, as mentioned by the Honorary Secretary of the Bombay General Library, has taken place two months prior to the establishment of the Bombay General Library.

<u>Resolution</u> - "Resolved to limit the members of the Society to their present number. The names of candidates to be registered and on the occurrence of a vacancy, one of the candidates to be elected be balloted. Proposed by Mr. Money and seconded by Captain Charles Waddington.

<u>Rejected</u>

<u>Resolution by W. Wedderburn</u> : "That the old rule of one black ball in ten excluding a candidate, be reverted to, and that ten Members be present at an election, failing which, none to take place"

<u>Unanimously adopted</u>

14. Manockjee Curstejee (1807-1887). One of the first champions of female education among the Parsis. Social reformer. Studied at Oxford. Became Judge of the Small Causes and twice the Sheriff of Bombay. Visited Europe a number of times. Author of books (1) Correspondence on female education between the Hon. J.E.D. Bethune and Manockjee Curstjee (1856), (2) The Parsee Panchayat, its rise, its fall and the causes that led to the same (1860). Read papers at the meetings of BBRAS. First paper "Situation of the Caves of Beduse" read on 27-5-1840.

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15. Oriental Christian Spectator, Vol. 4, June 1833. p.271. (This event has not been recorded in the minute book of the BBRAS).

16. Oriental Christian Spectator. Oldest Christian periodical in India. Founded by the Scottish missionary Reverend John Wilson in 1830 in Bombay. Vol.1 No.1 January 1830.

17. Wilson, Reverend Dr.John (1804-1875). Scottish Missionary and Orientalist. Arrived in Bombay 1829. Studied Marathi. Founded Oriental Christian Spectator (1830-1860). Opened schools for native girls 1829. Studied Indian languages. Member, Literary Society of Bombay (1830). President BBRAS 1835, Member Royal Asiatic Society (1836), Wilson College, Bombay was founded in his memory in 1887.

18. Oriental Christian Spectator. Vol.4, June 1833, p.271.

19. BBRAS. Minute Book 1837-42. 31 January 1838 meeting, minute.

20. Ibid. 28 February 1838 meeting. Minute.

21. Ibid. 26 December 1839 meeting. Minute.

22. Ibid. 29 January 1840 meeting. Minute.

23. Shankarshet, Jagannath (1802-65). Sonar, Banker, for forty years head of the Bombay Hindu Community, patron of education, President, Bombay Association, 1852-57, Member of the Bombay Legislative Council, 1862-65.

24. Manmohandas Devidas. the Millionnaire. In 1840, the first Gujarati Hindu was appointed Justice of Peace. As J.P. became directly involved in the municipal administration of the city of Bombay.

25. Bhau Daji (1822-1874). Lad, Ramkrishna Vitthal urpha Bhau Daji. A Saraswat Brahmin. One of the Bombay's First Medical Graduates and a noted antiquarian. Educated at Elphinstone College and Grant Medical College, Social reformer and Orientalist, member of the Bombay Association, Sheriff of Bombay 1868-69.

26. Naoroji, Dadabhai (1825-1917). Parsi, educated at Elphinstone Institution, founded Students' Literary and Scientific Society, founded Parsi Reform Association Rahnumae Mazdayasnan Sabha, co-founder of Bombay Association, founded Rast Goftar, 1851, founded East India Association 1866, Prime Minister, Baroda, 1874, member, Bombay Legislative Council, 1885. President Indian National Congress.

27. The works of Sir William Jones with the Life of the author by Lord Teignmouth. Vol.III. Reprinted 1977. pp. 8-9.

28. Proceedings of the Asiatic Society (of Bengal)(Calcutta) 1827-33 (Handwritten). p. 68. 7 January 1828 meeting. minute.

29. Wilson, Dr. Horace Hayman (1786-1860). Orientalist. Arrived at Calcutta, 1808. Assistant Surgeon on Bengal Establishment of East India Co. Secretary, Asiatic Society of Bengal. 2 April 1810-1831. Compiled Sanskrit English Dictionary, 1819. 2nd edition 1831; Translated Meghadute of Kalidasa, 1813, Chair in Sanskrit, Oxford Univ. 1833-36.

30. Proceeding of the Asiatic Society (of Bengal) (Calcutta). 1827-33. (Handwritten). p. 93. 4 March 1829 meeting. Minute.

31. Hutt, Benjamin. Appointed 1818. Promoted 29 May 1839. Acting Judge and Sessions Judge at Ahmednagar 22 November 1841.

32. G.D. 1838 Vol.21/448 p. 11

33. G.D. 1838 Vol.21/448 p. 13.

34. French, Pat Theo. Captain. Appointed in Bombay Army. Regiment 23rd N.L.I. as Second Lieut (1821). Promoted Lieut (8 September 1826), Captain (25 May 1837) and Major (11 November 1851). Agent for Bhils at Ahmednagar (1838). Later he worked as the Commander of the Ahmednagar Police Force. Transferred to Rajputana in 1843. In 1845, he was appointed as the Political Assistant, Nimar, Indore State, Central India. On 9-10-1847 he was appointed as the Private Secretary to Governor of Bombay. Town Major for Bombay Presidency (20-3-1848). He left Bombay on 1-1-1849 for Baroda as Acting Resident, Baroda. One of the founders of the BBCI Railway. Chairman of the Board of Directors, BBCI Rly for32 years. Resigned 1885. Bridge near Kennedy Bridge in Bombay named after French as French Bridge.

35. The Bombay Native General Library established in 1845 made good progress within a short period. This effort might have induced the people at Ahmednagar to revive the library in 1847.

36. G.D. 1850 Vol.47, pp.211-212.

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37. Rabhoba Janardan (1815-1897). Rao Bahadur First Editor and Publisher of Marathi Magazine 'Digdarshan' (1840-42), Associate of Balshastri Jambhekar, Head Clerk, Military Board Office, Bombay, 1845-49; Member, Committee of Management, BNGL, 1845-50. Later on Deputy Collector and Magistrate at Belgaum 1849-1868. Retired 1872. Settled at Vasai (Bassein).

38. BNGL (1845-79), p 1. (Bombay Native General Library. Annual Reports - from its commencement to the year 1879 and extracts from the Proceedings of the Managing Committees and Correspondence selected from old records. Compiled by the Honorary Secretary of the Library, Bombay, 1880. v. 205, (2) p. Select correspondence 1-39 p.)
Abbreviated as BNGL(1845-1879)

39. At present, Trinity street, where stands now a municipal market (1917 remark)

40. BNGL (1845-79), p. 2. Resolution VI

41. BNGL (1845-79), p. 2. Resolution I.

Committee of Management

President - John Mullaly

European Members (7)	Indian Members (7)
1. Mr.H.F.Trueman	1. Raghoba Janardan.
2. G.McKeon	2. Pandurang Bhawooo
3. J.Mathieson	3. Narayanrao Amrootrow.
4. A.R.Dickson	4. D.P.Rodrigues.
5. J.King.	5. Pundlik Shanker Varde (Poondlick Sunker Varde)
6. A.L.Murdock	6. Bomanjee Furdonjee
7. M.Groundwater	7. Shrikrishna Sadashivji (Shreecrustna Sadasewjee)

Treasurer - Dorabjee Dadabhoy

Assistant Treasurer - Atmaram Raghoba.

Joint Secretaries - William Maidment and Ramchandra Balwantrow.

42. Mullaly,James. Head Uncovenanted Assistant, Military Board Office, Compiled 'Tables of pay and allowances at present in force in the Civil, Military and Marine Services etc'. 2 Vols. Bombay, American Mission Press, 1847.

43. BNGL (1845-79), pp-3,4.

44. Ibid, p.4.

45. Ibid. p. 7. Report upto June 1845.

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46. GD 1845, Vol.49/955 pp. 193-194.

47. Ibid. p.196 (Letter dated 15th April 1845 from Secretary to Government, to President of the Native General Library).

48. BNGL (1845-1879). Select correspondence pp. 21-26.

49. Ibid. p.17. Abstract Statement of the Receipt and Disbursements ofthe Native General Library.

50. Ibid. p.17. Letter from Erskine Perry dated 11th July 1845 to John Mullaly, President of the Native General Library.

51. BNGL (1845-79) p.29,33, paras 2,3,18,20. Report of the BNGL for 1852.

52. Students' Literary and Scientific Society (Founded 13 June 1848) at the Elphinstone Institution with the support of the Elphinstone Professors and under the leadership of four distinguished Elphinstonians, Dadabhai Naoroji, Naoroji Furdunji, Sorabji Shapurji Bengali and Bhau Daji. Formed Branch Societies namely Gujarati Dnyan Prasarak Mandali, Marathi Dnyan Prasarak Sabha, Gujarati Hindu Buddhivardhak Sabha (April 1851). Organized meetings, read papers and articles published.

53. Framji Kavasji Banaji (1767-1851). Parsi, China trader, member of the Parsi Panchayat, interested in education, member, Board of Education,Bombay Presidency.

54. Aims of the Framji Cowasjee Institute - "To light the torch of intellectual enlightenment by promoting and encouraging pppular education, among the people".

55. Objects of the Students' Dnyanaprasarak Library were as follows

1st. The cheap circulation of the best vernacular works among the reading portion of the Native community who are only acquainted with their own languages.

2nd. In addition to this, the circulation of elementary English books of a useful kind, and in the reading room the access to Maps, Charts, Globes etc. for those who have had a rudimentary education and a partial knowledge of English.

3rd. The advantage of a good General Library in English combined with easy access to Vernacular publications for the class who have received a college education.

4th The supplying individuals in all three classes with work in the classical Oriental languages, for their amusement or instruction.

55 (contd) The reading room is to be opened in January and to be supplied with the best English and Vernacular newspapers and periodicals. (In the Bombay Calendar and Almanac, 1853, p. 258).

56. BNGL (1845-79) pp.30-31. Report, BNGL, 1852. para 11.

57. Ibid. p.31. Report, BNGL 1852, para 13.

58. Ibid. p.32. Report, BNGL, 1852, para 18.

59. Fourth Report of the Students' Literary and Scientific Society and of its vernacular Branch Societies, 1853. pp.19-20.

60. Deshmukh, Gopal Hari (1823-1892). Pseud. Lokahitavadi. Civil Servant, Sub-Assistant Inam Commissioner 1855-1861, Assistant Judge, Ahmedabad 1862-1874, Nasik 1876-1880, retired (1880). Took part in various activities in Poona 1880-1892. Justice of Peace (1877). Fellow, Bombay University (1877), Member Bombay Legislative Council 1880. Rao Bahadur. Social Reformer. Author of books. Represented with government to utilize the Dakshina Fund for encouragement of Marathi authors.

61. Prabhakara. 26 March 1848. patra (letter) no. 3. In Lokahitavadinchi Shetapatre. Ed. by Narayan Rabhunath Inamdar. 2nd edition. Poona, Continental Prakashan 1960. pp. 7-9, Punyat Librarichi Sthapana.

62. Brown, Henry. Appointed in India (1820). Judge and Sessions Judge of Poona and Agent for Sardars in Deccan (appointed 1st May 1846).

63. RBE. 1 January 1850 - 30 April 1851. pp.70-72. Native Library at Poona.

64. GD 1850 Vol 47 pp. 211-212.

65. Ibid. p.74.

66. Ibid. p.75 (Report dated 27th November 1849).

67. Ibid. p. 78.

68. Stowell, M. (Dr) Surgeon. Secretary, Board of Education Secretary Elphinstone Native Education Institution Committee.

69. GD 1850 Vol.47. p.121 (Letter dated 9th March 1850, para 2).

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70. Ibid. p.122.

71. Ibid. p.123.

72. Dnyanaprakash (Poona) Marathi weekly (12 Feb 1849 -1853). Twice a week (1853-1904). Daily (15 Aug 1904 - 1949) Annual subscription Rs.10/- in the early years.

73. Bodhsagar. Bombay. Marathi monthly. Started May 1849. Annual subscription Rs.6/-.

74. Dnyana Prasarak (Gujarathi) Bombay. Issued by the Gujarati Dnyan Prasarak Mandali. (Gujarathi Branch of the Students' Literary and Scientific Society).

75. GD 1850 Vol. 47, p.125-126.

76. Ibid. p.129.

77. Ibid. p.133,para 1.

78. Ibid.p.134.

79. These annual reports are an important contemporary source material throwing light on the foundation and working of these libraries during the early years, as most of these libraries do not possess any record of this period.

Detailed reports about the working of libraries at Poona, Ahmednagar, Satara, Nasik, Thana, Sholapur,Ratnagiri are published in the Reports of the Board of Education for the period 1850 to 1856.

80. GD 1850. Vol.47. p.129.

81. Jarvis, George (Col.). Writer of Marathi Textbooks in Mathematics, Arithmetic, Algebra,Geometry. Translator of books in Marathi 1826 - 1856.

Secretary, Native School Book and School Society,1823-
Teacher, Engineering College,Bombay and Poona.
Incharge, Govt. Lithographic establishment, Bombay 1829.

82. Candy, Thomas (Major) (1804-1877).
Arrived in India in 1821 as Officer of East India Co. Worked in Education Dept. since 1831. Assisted J.T.Molesworth in compiling his Marathi-English Dictionary in 1847. Principal, Poona College,1851-57. Professor, Deccan College, 1867. Indian Penal Code, Civil and Criminal Procedure Code translated into Marathi. Wrote Marathi textbook. Subsequently appointed Govt. translator in Marathi.

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83. RBE 1854-55. Appendix No. XXVI. p.145. para 4.

84. RBE No.X (1-5-1851 to 30-4-1852). Appendix X. Native Library at Ratnagiri p. 145. (Report of the working of the library for the year 1850 submitted by the Secretary of the Library) also GD 1853 Vol.46 p.132.

85. PD 1850. Kolapper. Vol.54/2420 Compilation No.1638. (Letter from H.L.Anderson, Acting Political Superintendent, Kolhapur to the Chief Secretary to Government of Bombay dated 24 August 1850).

86. Ibid. Compilation No.4239 of 10 September 1850. This amount was given in the names of young Prince of Kolhapur and his Brother.

87. RBE 1851-52. Appendix No.X pp.145-152. Native Library at Thana (Report of the Library upto 31 December 1851).

88. Dnyanodaya. Pustak 11, p. 142, May 1, 1852. (Sawant Waree Pustak Grihe).

89. GD 1853 Vol.46. p. 223. Letter from H.L.Anderson, Political Superintendent of Sawant Wadi to Mr. H.F.Goldsmid, Secretary to Government Bombay dated 23 April 1853.

90 Ibid. (This amount was paid from the Waree (Sunderwadi State) Treasury as the contribution of the Sardesai (Chief of Sawantwadi State) and his family. One Rupee per month subscription was paid by the Sardesai (The Chief of Sawantwadi State).

91. RBE. 1854-55. pp.155-58. Satara Native Library (First report of the library since its inception for a period of about two and a half years). Para 5 (Also Dnyanodaya. Pustak 11, Anka 17, 1 September 1852 p.274. Native Libraries. Satara Pustak Griha.

92. GD 1852. Vol. 10 p. 349 (Letter of Thomas Ogilvy, Commissioner of Satara dated 23 July 1852).

93. GD 1852 Vol.10. p.353.

94. GD 1853 Vol.46. p.211. (Letter from Govind Trimbak Dharmadhikari, Secretary of Native General Library, Nasik to the Governor of Bombay dated 8th February 1853).

95. Dnyanodaya. Pustak 12, Anka 4, 15 February 1853. (Letter from Govind Trimbak Dharmadhikari, Secretary, Nasik Native General Library dated 31st January 1853 to the Editor, Dnyanodaya).

96. RBE 1854-55. Appendix No.XXVI pp.152-54. Native Library at Nasik (First Report of the Library from its foundation to 31 December 1854) para 4

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97. GD 1853 Vol.46, p.215.

98. GD 1853 Vol.46, pp. 82-83. Para 1. Letter from C.H. Harrison, Judge and Sessions Judge, Sholapur to the Secretary to Government, Bombay dated 11 Feb. 1853. (Prospectus issued by Thomas Moore, Secretary of the proposed Library at Sholapur dated 10th July 1852 GD 1853 Vol.46, pp. 85-87).

99. Ibid. p. 81. (This subscription was raised for establishment of an English School and a library. Rs.2000/-were proposed to be spent for the building.).

100. Ibid. p.89.

101. Joshi, M.R. Dhondo Shamrao Garud Library, Dhule. 100 Varshancha Trotak Vrittanta. Sahitya Sahakara April 1956. pp.1-3.

102. GD 1854 Vol.43 pp. 67-162. Letter from Stowell, Secretary, Board of Education dated 18th March 1854 to C.J. Erskine, Secretary to Government, General Department.

This information was collected by the Board of Education on request from Mr. C.J. Erskine, Secretary to Government, General Department and was furnished in a Tabulated form along with the original reports received from these libraries. Information was collected on the following aspects. 1) Date of establishment, 2) Number of subscribers at the time of establishment, 3) Number of subscribers in 1853, 4) Amount of donation received, 5) Rate of monthly subscription, 6) Amount of monthly expenditure, 7) Principal castes of subscribers, 8) Employment of subscribers, 9) Number of works purchased, presented and lent, 10) Number of works by languages, English, Vernacular, 11) Nature (subjects) of works, 12) Average daily number of subscribers who attend the library and ordinary time of such attendance, 13) Periodicals and newspapers - number and language, 14) Distance from the Native General Library, 15) Objects and origin, 16) Management (Directors).

103. Marthapecady is a village 3 miles away from Bombay.

104. Anderson, Henry Lacon. Appointed 1839. Officiating Political Superintendent of Kolhapur (24 Jan. 1849), Political Superintendent, Sawantwadi (8 January 1851).

105. Ogilvy, Thomas. Arrived 1830. Commissioner of Satara (2 December 1850).

106. Harrison, Ch Mathew. Appointed 1830. Judge and Sessions Judge at Sholapur (8 March 1852).

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107. Keays, Robert. Appointed 1829. Judge and Sessions Judge of the Konkan (14 July 1852) and Acting Judge and Sessions Judge Poona and Officiating Agent for Sardars.

108. Coles, George. Appointed 1825. Collector and Magistrate of Ratnagiri (10 May 1848).

109. Cameron, C. H. Assistant Judge and Sessions Judge of Nagar (14 January 1851). Acting Assistant Judge and Sessions Judge of Konkan (20 January 1852).

110. GD 1853 Vol.46. p.209. (Letter from Laxman Krisimha Joshi).

111. Ibid. p.210.

112. RBF 1854-55. Appendix No.XXVI. pp.152-153.

113. Ibid. p.153. (It mentions the date of foundation as 31 January 1853 but it should be 29 January 1853).

114. Dharmadhikari, Govind Trimbak.

115. Jenkins, Rd. L. Appointed 1834. Sub-collector and Joint Magistrate of Nasik (24 March 1854).

116. G.D. 1853. Vol.46. p.113. Letter dated 19 July 1853.

117. Joshi, M.R. op.cit.

118. BNGL (1845-79). pp. 7-10. Rules and regulations of the NGL passed at general meeting held on 7th June 1845 (34 rules).

119. Ibid. pp. 33-37. General meeting of the members, 30 September 1847. (22 rules).

120. Ibid. pp. 37-40. Rules and regulations of the NGL passed on 18 July 1853. (37 rules).

121. GD. 1850. Vol.47. p.75.

122. Rules and Regula tions of the Sawant Waree Native Library (Sunderwadi ethil granthalaya sambandhi Niyam). Framed on 18th April 1852 and printed on 25th July 1852 in the Press of the Sunderwadi State. 2 pages.

123. RBF 1850-51. Appendix No.VIII. pp.135-142. Native Library at Poona. Para 7.

124. BNGL 1845-79. p.38. Rules and Regulations of the NGL passed on 18 July 1853. Rule 11.

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125. Narayan Dinanathji (Died 1870). Joined Court's Translation Department in 1844 and remained on the judicial side allhis life. Earning Rs.500 per month in 1870. Member, Bombay Association, Committee Member, President Marathi Dnyanprasarak Sabha. Vice President, Student's Literary and Scientific Society

126. Perry, Sir Thomas Erskine (1806-1882). Judge of the Supreme Court of Bombay. Knight (1841-47). Chief Justice (May 1847 - Autumn 1852). Left India Nov.1852. Member of Parliament, Member of the Council of India (1859). President Board of Education 1845-1852.

127. BNGL (1845-79). p.24.

128. RBE 1854-55. Appendix No.XXVI. p.150. Para 8.

129. Reports of the annual and quarterly meetings were published in the newspapers like the Dnyanprakash (Poona), The Prabhakara (Bombay), The Bombay Courier. The Dnyanodaya (Bombay) also covered various news about native libraries.

130. Attar, Gubab, Pansuparai. Fragrant essence is applied to hands. Rose water is sprinkled and a roll of Betal leaves containing Betel Nut etc. is given to the invitees.

131. Dnyanaprakash. 25 June 1855. Report of the meeting held on 19th June 1855 of the Poona Native General Library.

132. Dnyanaprakash. Year 8 Patra 27. 7th July 1856. p.329. (Report of the meeting held on 30th June 1856 of the Sholapur Native General Library.)

133. BNGL (1845-79). p.7. Rules and Regulations of NGL passed at general meeting held on 7th June 1845. Rules 1,2.

134. Ibid.p.16. (Second report, BNGL,7 June 1845 to 31 August 1847, para 18.)

135. Ibid. pp.33-37. Rule 1 (4 clauses).

136. Ibid. p.20. (Third report, BNGL, 1 Sept 1847 to 28 Feb. 1849.Para 8).

137. Ibid. p.7. (Proc. General meeting, BNGL held on 27 April 1849. Resolution 2).

138. Ibid. p.26. (Report, BNGL, 1 March 1849 to 31 Dec.1850. Para 14).

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139. Ibid. p.33 (Rule 2).

140. Ibid p.37 (Rule 6).

141. Ibid. p.37-40 (37 rules).

142. GD 1853. Vol.46. p.91.

143. Rules and regulations of the Sawant Waree Native Library, 1852. Rule 2.

144. RBE 1854-55. Appendix No.XXVI. p.160.

145. RBE 1854-55. Appendix No.XXVI. p.149. Para 5.

146. Ibid. p.162. Para 3.

147. BNGL (1845-79). p.18. Third report. BNGL 1 Sept 1847 to 28 Feb 1849. Para 5.

148. RBE 1854-55.p. 148.

149. Ibid. p.149.

150. GD 1853. Vol.46. p.94.

151. RBE 1850-51. Appendix No.VIII p.141.

152. PD Kolapoor 1850. Vol.54/2420. Compilation No.1638. Kolapoor Library, Museum and Reading Room. Para 3.

153. GD 1852. Vol.10.p.350. Para 2.

154. RBE 1854-55. p.155. para 6.

155. GD 1853. Vol.46. p.81. Para 2.

156. Ibid. p.149.

157. Ibid.p.143. Letter dated 6 August 1853.

158. Loughnan, Thomas Charles. Appointed 1830. First Assistant to collector and Magistrate of Ratnagiri (27 February 1845 --). Promoted 11 May 1851. Collector and Magistrate of Sholapur (10 October 1851 ..).

159. RBE. May 1 1852 to April 30, 1853. Appendix No.XVII. Native Library at Ahmednagar. Para 10.

160. RBE 1852-53. p.170. Native Library at Tanna. Para 2.

161. RBE 1854-55. p.154. Para 10.

162. GD 1854. Vol.43. p.175.

163. RBE 1854-55. p.159. Para 4,5.

164. RDPI 1855-56. p.141. p.143. Para 173.

165. GD 1850. Vol.47. p.225.

166. Ibid. p.235.

167. RBE 1851-52. pp.81-82.

168. RBE May 1,1853 to April 30, 1854. pp.15-18.

169. RBE 1852-53. pp.88-89.

170. RBE 1851-52. Appendix No.X. pp.145-152. Native Library at Tanna. Para 2.

171. Turquand, William James. Appointed 1837. Promoted 3 October 1849. First Assistant to Collector and Magistrate of Ratnagiri (10 October 1851 -) Sub-collector at Nasik.

172. RBE 1854-55. p.153. Para 7.

173. Ibid. Para 4, Para 6.

174. RBE 1852-53. Appendix No.XVII. Native Library at Ahmednagar. Para 8.

175. Naoroji Furdunji (1817-1885). Parsi. Educated at Elphinstone Institution. Assistant Professor, Elphinstone Institution. Translator and Interpreter to Supreme Court, 1845-64. Writer of a number of pamphlets on Zoroastrianism Leader of 'Young Bombay' party. Secretary, Bombay Association, 1855-1877. Very active in municipal affairs.

176. BNGL(1845-79) p. 41

177. GB 1850. Vol.47. p.177.

178. Ibid. p.179.

179. Ibid. p.181.

180. RDPI. 1855-56. pp.141-42. Para 168.

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CHAPTER - 5

Growth and Development of Native General Libraries 1856 - 1881

Spread of Education in the Bombay Presidency 1856-1881

As per recommendations of Woods[1] Despatch (1854)[2], Department of Public Instruction was created under the Director of Public Instruction[3] assisted by educational inspectors. Under the direction of E.I.Howard,[4] the Director of Public Instruction (1856-67), total number of educational institutions increased from 300 (24079 students) in 1855-56 to 954 (65948 students) in 1864-65. Alexander Grant[5] and J.B.Peile[6] who succeeded E.I.Howard concentrated on girls' schools, the number of which went upto 159 with 6066 girls and Training College for Women was also started. With the establishment of the University of Bombay in 1857, colleges were also started which marked the beginning of higher education in the Bombay Presidency. Grants-in-aid were given to privately managed institutions and therefore a number of institutes managed by private bodies increased[7]. In this way there was rapid increase in the number of educated Indians and also the number of educational institutes as follows.

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	Year 1870-71 Institutions and students	Year 1855-56 Institutions and students
Arts colleges	5(297)	2(103)
Professional colleges and schools	6(612)	7(311)
Secondary schools	209(15527)	30(3578)
Primary schools	2738(159628)	256(20011)
Indigenous schools	5(55)	-
Training schools	9(49)	5(76)
Total	2972(176168)	300(24079)

In December 1870, Education Department came wholly under the authority of the State Government due to the move of decentralisation in administration

In this period, total expenditure of the Bombay Province on education increased from Rs.20.91 lakhs in 1870-71 to Rs.77.77 lakhs in 1901-02. The resulting expansion in education is shown in the table which follows[9]

	Year 1901-02 No. of Institutions/Pupils
1. Arts colleges	19(1941)
2. Professional colleges	5(1064)
3. Secondary schools	494(48533)
4. Primary schools	8987(513211)
5. Training schools	17(848)
6. Other special schools	35(3179)
Total	9548(568776)

Though the main motive behind the policy of introducing English Education was to provide educated men to the administrative machine of the East India Company, there was also another noble aim, the aim of improving Indian society culturally. The historic role of English education was understood both by English rulers and Indian leaders. Raja Ram Mohan Roy felt that Sanskrit education would keep the country in darkness while English education would promise dawn of knowledge[10]. Balshastri Jambhekar desired that learning in Western science should be increased and knowledge of West should be published for natives[11].

The hopes came true, in the sense, that the spread of English education was the most important factor to cause 'Intellectual revolution' in Nineteenth Century Maharashtra[12].

Policy of the Bombay Government towards Native General Libraries

During this period, the policy of the Bombay Government towards native general libraries laid down in 1850's continued further with the following modifications.

With the abolition of the Board of Education, native libraries came under the charge and supervision of the Director of Public Instruction. Educational Inspectors in the four divisions[13] of the Educational Department visited native libraries in their jurisdiction and submitted reports on the condition of native libraries to the Director of Public

Dr. Peet's inquiry into Native Libraries in Bombay.

Though there were about 10 libraries in Bombay and some publications and maps were donated to these libraries by the Board of Education during 1853-54, it seems that the Board of Education was not concerned with these libraries and therefore did not collect and publish information about the libraries in Bombay in their annual reports. As the Bombay Government received applications from these libraries for support, the Director of Public Instruction requested Dr.Peet[14], Educational Inspector, Central Division to make inquiry into the various libraries in Bombay[15]. The inquiry revealed that all these libraries were mostly well-conducted and well furnished with books. The managers of these libraries were asked to state in what way Government could best aid them and replies of various sorts were received. Some required financial assistence, others a supply of standard works or the daily newspapers. Some required a new building for the library and reading room.

The policy recommended by Dr.Peet implies that minimum financial support was to be given for the development of native libraries in Bombay, but to have an increased government control over them. Money grants were to be given only in exceptional cases. Assistance from the Government was to be given in the form of books and maps only. Even the selection of books was to be made jointly by the Managing Committee and the Educational Inspector. Further the libraries were open to Government inspection.

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It is not known whether these proposals were officially accepted by the Government, but during the next decade, money grants were not given to any native library. Books, maps and other publications were presented to native libraries on application made for the purpose.

Educational Inspectors of the four divisions visited the native libraries and submitted their reports each year to the Director of Public Instruction regarding the progress made by the libraries. A gist of these reports was published in the Annual Reports of the Director of Public Instruction from 1860 to 1867. We, therefore, cannot get from these reports detailed information about the foundation and development of native libraries established during this period. Information about a few libraries appeared in periodicals like the Dnyanaprakash[16], the Dnyanodaya etc.

Inquiry into Libraries in the Bombay Presidency (1866-68).

The Chief Secretary to Government, Education Department in his letter No.4191 dated 31 August 1866[17] requested the Director of Public Instruction to submit his proposals regarding the measures that could be recommended for the improvement or extension of libfaries in the Bombay Presidency. As per directives of the Director of Public Instruction, Educational Inspectors of all the divisions made inquiry into the number and condition of libraries in their respective divisions and submitted their reports.[18] On the basis of these reports,

the Director of Public Instruction Alexander Grant reported regarding the condition of native libraries as follows[19]

> "Most of these libraries are mere reading rooms as there appears to be a universal taste for reading the vernacular and in more advanced places, the English newspapers. The issues of books appears to be extremely unequal in different libraries. In some libraries, like the Bombay Native General Library etc. the issue of books is active. In other places, the bookshelves are a dead letter or a mere background to the reading room. Means of supporting these libfaries and purchasing books are various".

In these circumstances it became difficult for him to recommend to Government any comprehensive measures for the improvement or extension of libraries.

On the whole, he was of the opinion that libraries should be left to be formed on the initiative of the people themselves and that in aiding them, each case should be considered seperately.

Measures for Improvement of Native Libraries

Alexander Grant, therefore proposed the following measures for the improvement of native libraries[20]: (1) Libraries worthy of aid be registered in the office of the Director of Public Instruction, (2) To libraries so registered, a copy of each book purchased from the Fund for the Encouragement of Literature[21] be forwarded, and (3) The sum at his disposal for the gratuitous distribution of books - Rs.2000/- per annum[22] be

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increased to Rs.5000/- and that presents of standard and useful works be made from time to time, to the registered libraries at the best discretion of the Director of Public Instruction.

By a Government Resolution dated 6 May 1868[23], the first and the second of the proposals were sanctioned, the second was modified so as to leave it to the discretion of the Director of Public Instruction to forward a copy or not. The G.R. observed that some of the libraries entered in the list were of the most petty character and evidently had their origin not in any desire of the people themselves for such institutions but in the official pressure of amiable officers forcing on the people what they were not prepared for. In these circumstances, "it would be desirable to encourage by all means those in which the number of subscribers give evidence of a real wish among the natives of any town to maintain a library. The Director will probably be able to aid them sufficiently under the second of his proposal, and with the present amount of the assignment for the gratuitous distribution of books, without applying to the Govt. of India for an increase of the latter sum".

Beyond this assistance, the Government was not ready to increase the assistance as the request of the Director of Public Instruction to sanction an additional amount of Rs.5000 for gratuitous distribution of standard and useful books was not sanctioned.

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Important implication of this policy was that the Government was of the opinion that the native libraries should be developed by the people themselves and it was of no use to force the people to develop the libraries for which they had shown little interest.

Registration of Libraries

Another important decision taken by the Government was regarding the registration of the native libraries with the Director of Public Instruction "to give them some connection with this Department, by the issue to all registered libraries, a copy of each book purchased from the Fund for encouragement of Literature".[24]

In 1868-69, there were 147 libraries in the Bombay Presidency[25] (50 in the Central Division exclusive of the large public libraries in Bombay and Poona which had no connection with the Department, 72 in Northern Division, 18 in the Southern Division and 7 in the Sind Division). Out of which 28 libraries were registered with the Director of Public Instruction[26]. The number of registered libraries increased to 91 (31 in the Central Division, 8 in North East Division, 31 in North Division, 13 in Southern Division and 7 In Sind Division) in 1880-81[27].

Detailed reports about the working of native libraries were submitted by the Educational Inspectors in each division

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from 1867 to 1872 and were published in the Report of the Director of Public Instruction for the years 1867-68 to 1872-73. In these reports, information about the native libraries has been given under two categories of libfaries - A. Previously existing libraries, and B. Libraries newly established. The following aspects of information of each library are covered by the reports. (1) The sub-division or Collectorate, (2) Name of the place where the library was situated, (3) Total number of volumes, (4) Number of volumes added during the year, (5) Number of members, (6) Number of volumes issued, (7) Income received, (8) Expenditure incurred.

This tabulated information is followed by remarks on the condition of these libraries (whether mere reading rooms or libraries), type of reading materialsmost sought for, libraries in a flourishing state, reading rooms closed down, deficiencies of these libraries with some suggestions to improve the condition of libraries.

Thereafter no information about the number and condition of native libraries was published in the Reports of the Director of Public Instruction but only the number of registered libraries in each division was published. It may be due to the change in the policy of the government and secondly due to the transfer of education portfolio to provincial governments. Therefore one has to rely on the records available with the individual libraries for the progress made by each library. Very few libraries have preserved records from this period upto date.

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Expansion of Library Movement

Library movement which started in the early decades started taking root in the course of time. The single libraries or a couple of libraries ins city or Town could not cope with the growing requirements of the people. Population was increasing, the number of school and college going students was also rising. There was naturally therefore, more demand for books, particularly the latest books, embodying advanced knowledge in a particular field. The libraries, therefore, had to take a note of this changing pattern and to adopt its policies according to the need of the hour.

Another factor which accelerated the establishment of new libraries was the growth of nationalism and its impact on reading public. The people were anxious to know what was going on in the country and what was the attitude of the Government of India and U.K.

During this period about ~~26~~ 106 libraries and reading rooms were established newly in Western Maharashtra out of which ~~11~~ 26 libraries and reading rooms were closed for want of support from the people, bringing the total number of libraries from 20 in 1855 to about 100 upto 1881. Thus the library movement spread over from 11 towns in 1855 to about 75 towns covering all districts in the Western Maharashtra upto 1881. (Table 2) This period therefore be called as the Period of Expansion.

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At Bombay, 13 new libraries were established from 1856 to 1880. Out of the ten libraries that existed before 1855, the Bombay Native Library and Reading Room, Native Book Club, Native Improvement Library and the Students' Native Library were incorporated in the Bombay Benevolent Library established in 1852. The Juvenile Improvement Library established on 9 August 1952 continued upto 1878 and was closed. Therefore by the end of 1880 about 17 libraries served the reading population of Bombay. Information about names of libraries, year of foundation, classes of members etc. has been given in Table No.3.

About 93 libraries and reading rooms were established newly at various District Towns and other places. Out of which about 23 libraries and reading rooms were closed. All the ten libraries established at district towns prior to 1855 continued working during this period. Therefore about 81 libraries and reading rooms were in existence at District Towns and other places by the end of 1881. Names of towns where new libraries were established have been given in Table No.4. Out of these, 22 libraries and reading rooms were in existence in Native States like Kolhapur, Sangli, Mudhol, Sawantwadi etc. by the end of 1881.

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Rate of growth

The periodwise break up of newly established libraries is as follows

	In towns other than Bombay.	In Bombay
From 1856-1860	3	2
From 1861-1867	24	3
From 1868-1872	33	5
From 1873-1881	33	3
	93	13

Regarding the rate of growth of libraries at District Towns and other places, it may be observed that from 1856 to 1860, a few (3) libraries were established mainly due to two factors. Firstly the goal of establishment of Native Libraries at the district towns in the Bombay Presidency laid down in 1850's was achieved by the end of 1855 and no further directions were given for spreading the library movement, and secondly due to uncertain political atmosphere created by the mutiny of 1857 coupled with change of structure in the Education Department might have deterred the attention of the Government from establishing native libraries newly.

The library movement got momentum from 1861 as various local self-government institutions and Marathi and English schools were established at district towns and other places during this period. From 1861 to 1867, 24 new libraries were established. It received momentum after 1868 mostly due to the proposals submitted by Alexander Grant for improvement of native libraries and regular inspection of native libraries by Educational Inspectors in the Four divisions of the

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Presidency. Therefore from 1868 to 1872, 33 new libraries were established. This rate of growth has been maintained in the later period and from 1873 to 1881, 33 new libraries and reading rooms were established. A list of important libraries established newly (arranged chronologiesally)is given in Table No.3.

The growth of libraries was rapid in Bombay, as 13 libraries were established newly in Bombay. Noteworthy feature of libraries in Bombay is that libraries were established for different social groups by religion, language, or profession. Two or more libraries were established at towns like Poona (5) Sholapur (3), Kolhapur (2) etc.

Due to increase in the population and expansion of these towns, it was not possible for any one library to cater to the needs of all the people residing in distant localities of a town. Similarly due to spread of education, the number of educated people in big cities increased. Number of persons in the professions like law, Medicine, Commerce and trade, Engineering, Education, Judiciary and in Government employment increased in these cities. They had better and reguler income than persons in other towns. All these factors contributed to the development of libraries in these cities. These facts also indicate the necessity of establishing different public libraries in various localities of a town to cater to the needs of various social groups and religious communities in these big cities.

Majority of the libraries and reading rooms established during this period continued their existence for years together. This shows that interest in the libraries and reading rooms that was being developed among the people may be due either to the influence of the officers or to the enthusiasm of office-bearers of these libraries. Other factors like the publication of newspapers and magazines in the vernacular, spread of education, employment opportunities to the educated in Government service and contact with Government officials might have also proved to be helpful inthis respect.

Continuance of the libraries is a step towards stability. At least some of the libraries established during this period had a stable foundation. From the analysis of the tables showing the position of libraries during 1855 and 1881, it is observed that there is an overall increase in the number of subscribers, number of books possessed by the libraries, number of newspapers and magazines subscribed, number of reading material issued, attendances of readers, amount of income received and expenditure incurred.

Outstanding progress has been made by the following libraries at Bombay such as the Library of the Bombay Branch Royal Asiatic Society, The Sassoon Mechanics Institute, The Bombay Native General Library, The Petit Institute and at places other than Bombay - the Kolhapur Native Library. A brief account of the progress made is given hereafter.

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	BWGL (1879)	SMI (1881-2)	Petit Inst.	BBRAS (1885)	Kolhapur NL
Members					
Ordinary	409	354	400 (1881)	150	146(1880-1)
Life	42	116	16(1881)	9	
Books	5937*	9498	3000 (1876) 5000 (1891)	23000 (1862) 32000 (1873) 621 (1885)	1512(1881-2) 812 (N+S)
Patents		3051			
Newspapers					
English	17		51 (1876)	180 (1885)	11
Verns.	20		140 (1898)	NP+Mag	15
Magazine					
English	24				22
Verna	4				
Issue of books					
Books	10800	18607	9000 (1894)	7361 old	2700(1881-2)
Periodicals		4740	14000 (1894)	17832 new including periodicals	
N.P.		3874			
Daily attendance	120		90 (1876)		40 (1881-2) 50 (1884-5)
Income Rs.	3817	6435	In 1898	14498	1500
Subs			7079	9673	
Donations			10150	4600	

Contd....

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	BNGL (1879)	SMI (1881-2)	Petit Inst.	BBRAS (1885)	Kolhapur NL
Reserve Fund Rs.			In 1898		
Life members	6300			4500	
Donations	3800			3000	
New B F A/c	9909		1000		
Capital fund	47985		34500		
Building Rs.	FCI (1864)	125000 (1870)	275000 (1898)	1000) Contribution (1829)	20000 (1881)
Expenditure Rs.					1393
Estt.	2232	2631	3310	5255	222
B+P	1069	897 B	2452B	4533B	220B
		1032 NP	3658NP	1887NP+P	333 NP
Other	500	1000	2000	549 Binding	
Gas light	110		212		

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Development of Native Libraries at District Towns and other places.

Native Libraries established at 10 district towns prior to 1855 made progress in various directions during this period.

Impact of 1857

In 1857 broke the famous mutiny in North India against the British, which spread over to a certain extent in the Bombay Presidency. European troops stationed at the district and other towns were transferred or moved to other towns. These movements had affected the working of libraries at Thana and Ratnagiri. There was decrease in the number of members in the Thana Native Library. There were only 8 European members out of 61 members. The income of the library therefore decreased during the year and was hardly enough to meet the expenses[28].

Ratnagiri Native General Library building was given up for Government stores to the Commissariat Department for the European soldiers, free of rent for a period of 13 months during which the library, it seems, was closed. As damages were done to the building, an amount of Rs.30-1-0 for repairs was sanctioned by the Government on request made by the Secretary of the Library[29].

Discussions (conversations) were held in the premises of the Poona Native General Library regarding 1857 mutiny

among the members and the with the Librarian of the Library. The Commissioner of Police at Poona forwarded to the Bombay Government a report containing an abstract of the conversations carried on in the Poona Native General Library[30]. The Commissioner stated that the persons who frequented that library, indulged in seditious conversation and that he had reasons to believe it was no better at the Poona College. "These persons" the Commissioner reported "did their best to foster a spirit of mistrust and disaffection against the Government". Many of these persons were highly placed Government employees. The Superintendent of Police at Poona had satisfied himself that the report of the conversation that was brought to him by his spies was correct. These conversations in his opinion, were of a very seditous nature and "they were calculated to do a great deal of mischief".

Conversations between the following persons was reported (1) Prof. Kero Laxman Chhatre and Krishna Shastri Chiplunkar, Professor in the Poona College, (2) Balwantrao, the Librarian and a Prabhu Clerk, (3) Prof. Kero Laxman Chhatre and Sonya Bapu Munde, Sub-Assistant Inam Commissioner, (4) Sakharam Dixit and Vishnupant Shastri Tahmankar, (5) The Librarian and Narayan Sahasrabuddhe, a clerk to Lord Bishop, (6) Prof. Kero Laxman Chhatre and Yeshwant Bhavalkar, Teacher in the Poona College.

This report throws light on the social status of the members of the Poona Native General Library and their attitude

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towards the mutiny of 1857. Public library was a place for coming together of educated people and persons in government service at that time. As the mutiny did not spread widely in Western Maharashtra, no action was taken against the Poona Native General Library and its members[31].

Progress made 1858-1867.

Information regarding the progress made by these libraries from 1858-1867 is not available with these libraries. Reports about the condition of native libraries had been submitted by the Educational Inspectorsin the four divisions to the Director of Public Instruction from time to time. But these reports have been published in a summary manner in the annual reports of the Director of Public Instruction from 1858 to 1867. From these reports, it appears that the libraries at Poona[32] and Satara were in a flourishing state[33]. In 1863, the Richardson Reading Room at Dhulia was converted into Dhulia Native General Library[34].

Position during 1867-1872.

Position of these libraries during 1867-68 and 1871-72 has been described in the Annual reports of the Director of Public Instruction for these years in tabulated form. As an illustration, information for the year 1868-69 has been presented in Table No. 6

Position of libraries at district towns in 1871-72 was as follows[35]

Town	Vols.	Vol. added	Members	Vols issued	Income* Rs.	Expenditure* Rs.
Central Division						
Poona	2206	21	132	285	1786	1170
Sholapur	562	12	25	109	532	437
Satara	2298	103	76	2936	911	858
Ratnagiri	729	25	25	307	537	366
Sawantwadi (1870-71)	678	24	51	63	501	324
Thana	1050	13	30	15	306	351
North East Division						
Dhulia	502	85	39	160	2244**	2639
Ahmednagar	1445	100	62	98	501	359
Nasik	1464	36	47	383	957	494
South Division						
Kolhapur	865	52	69	209	498	763

*Annas and pies from these statements are excluded.

**Includes donations collected for Library building.

From the reports of the Director of Public Instruction, it seems that the libraries at Poona, Satara, Ahmednagar and Nasik were in a flourishing state.[36] The Library at Satara was mainly supported by Europeans while the library at Nasik received a major part of the income from European residents[37]. Libraries at Kolhapur and Dhulia were in a progressive

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Position of Libraries at Taluka Towns and other places

(Note - The Table for the year 1368-69[38] has been analysed). ~~Appendix~~ Table 6 after p. 503

As regards membership of these libraries, it is observed that out of the 34 libraries which had given information about number of members, 10 libraries had members between 6 to 19, 14 libfaries had members between 20 to 39, 6 libraries had members between 40-59 and only 4 libraries had members above 100. There were constant ups and downs in the number of members. For example the number of members of the libraries at Junnar and Wai increased from 5 to 50 and from 8 to 42 respectively. At the same time the number of members at the Tasgaon library decreased from 55 to 6.

As regards the book collection of these libraries, it is observed that out of 30 libraries which gave information about this aspect, 16 libraries possessed books between 12 to 99, 7 libraries possessed books between 100 to 199, 2 libraries possessed books between 200 to 299, 2 between 300-399. 1 between 400 to 499 and 2 over 600 - Karad (600), Malcolm Peth (688).

As regards income received by these libraries, it is observed that out of the 37 libraries, 2 libraries had no income, 14 libraries had received income between 11 to 99, 15 libraries between 100-199, 2 libraries between 200-299 and Kalyan (369), Bhivandi (376), Wai (430), Malcolm Peth (512). Subscriptions and donations from members was the chief source of income.

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Relating to number of books added during the year, it is observed that out of the 40 libraries which had furnished information about the number of books added, 12 libraries have added books between 10-15, 7 libraries between 51 to 99. 3 Libraries between 120-200 and one added 319 - Malcolm Peth (200), Erandole (319).

In respect of issue of books, it is observed that out of the 40 returns received, 13 libraries had not issued any book, 8 libraries had issued books between 1 to 8, 11 libraries between 10-50, 9 libraries between 51-99, 4 libraries between 100-169, and the maximum number of books, were issued at Malcolm Peth Library (69) members, 30 volumes issued i.e. average 5 volumes, per member in a year). In many libraries, the average issue of books per year per member was less than one (This cannot be a reality. Some members might not have read the books).

Condition of the libraries

From the above discussion it is observed that most of the libraries were mere reading rooms where newspapers and magazines of the day, mostly in the vernecular languages were sought for.

The Educational Inspector of the Central Division remarks about the condition of libfaries in his division, that in Poona Subdivision only two, those at Poona and Talegaon Dabhade were actually working. The rest have no

members, no funds, no newspapers and no new books. In Satara, with the exception of those at Satara and Mahabaleshwar (which are mainly supported by Europeans), the libraries are mere reading rooms, dependent on the support of the Government officials and are very poor. In none of the other collectorates, do them seem, to be in a better state[39].

In smaller towns, the prosperity of the library depended "mainly on the support of the Government officers. All these libraries were more valued for the newspapers they subscribed than for the few books on the catalogue".[40]

He further reports that "people show but little taste for reading. These libraries are for the most part mere subscription. Reading rooms where the daily English and Vernacular papers may be seen on payment of a small subscription"[41].

The Deputy Inspector of the Poona Subdivision ascribed the unsatisfactory state of the libraries to the fact that "the native officials generally manifest very little interest in them".[42]

The Educational Inspector, Southern Division observes that in the peoples houses, a few religious or poetical works in the vernacular were read. He further remarks that a taste for reading will spread only with the spread of English[43].

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Suggestions for improvement

The Educational Inspector of the Southern Division further remarks "These institutions have no proper encouragement from Government. The Libraries which are registered in the Director of Public Instruction's office, get some books, such as school papers, novels, etc. This aid is quite insufficient[44]. The Secretaries of Native libraries reported that the books they received from the Directof of Public Instruction were mostly of discouraging character.

He therefore, suggests that a few books of general reference and information (not being departmental reports) might be given gratis to those libraries registered, as worthy of the gift[45].

Development of these libraries since 1872 and their position during 1880's as regards membership, number of books possessed, newspapers and magazines received, library buildings, income and expenditure etc. has been described, wherever possible in Table No. 8.

From this table, it may be observed that Libraries at Taluka towns and other places made slow progress during this decade and the condition of these libraries did not improve very much by 1880's except in case of a few libraries.

The libraries in the places other than district towns were mostly reading rooms with small collection of books and

few members on the roll of the library. This is due to the factors that the number of educated people and persons in the government employment and in the professions like Education, Law, Medicine, etc. were very few at these towns. These libraries, therefore could not progress well. As a matter of fact, many Indians at these placds might not have felt the need of a public library at all. We have to take into consideration the socio-economic background of the people in rural areas.

Position of the libraries at District towns during 1880's was as follows. (See also Table No 7)

Town	Year	No. of volumes	Members	Income Rs.	Newspapers & periodicals
Poona	1884	9136	92	800	16+4 = 20
Sholapur	1882	1450		450	10+2 = 12
Satara	1882-83	1761	107	880	32
Dhulia	1878	1250		500	13
Ahmednagar	1882-83	1533	50	420	11+5 = 16
Nasik	1880	2000		700	
Ratnagiri	1878	725		300	Few
Sawantwadi	1878	1097	56	1180 2500*	
Thana	1879-80	947	45	470	5+1 = 6
Kolhapur	1883	2969	195	2202	45

*Invested in Government 4 per cent securities.

From this table, it is observed that the number of books possessed by all these libraries rose to about 15000

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by 1880's. Maximum number of books (2969) were possessed by the Kolhapur library. Out of these the Kolhapur Native Library made outstanding progress with the support of the Kolhapur State - the Maharaja, the state officials, Political Resident and the members of the library.

The condition of the library was worst in 1865[47]. There were only 13 subscribers - 7 Europeans and 6 natives with monthly subscription of Rs.18-8-0, out of which the European members contributed Rs.10-8-0 per month. As the Indians contributed less amount for the library, European members formed a seperate library with the name The Agency Book Club in 1867. The educated Indians in Kolhapur accepted this challenge, took over the management of the library,called a general meeting of the subscribers and other well-wishers of the library on 6th Oct. 1867 and planned a programme for the revival of this library[48]. By the end of 1868[49], number of subscribers were 40, yearly income to Rs.324-14-6, six newspapers were purchased and 36 books were issued home, and in 1871[50], there were 69 subscribers paying an annual subscription of Rs.498-1-10, 22 newspapers and 865 books were possessed by the library, 209 books were issued to readers.

During the next decade there was constant increase in the number of members, income received and expenditure incurred, newspapers and magazines subscribed and purchase of books. Therefore the daily attendance and issue of books

increased. In 1882[51] income of Rs.1500 was received from 176 subscribers, 26 newspapers were subscribed and 22 were received gratis from the Manager of the Dnyansagar, with a stock of 2430 books. Daily attendance of readers was 40 and 2700 books were issued. It had an independent building costing about Rs.20000/-.

Development of Libraries in Bombay

During this period 13 libraries and reading rooms were newly established in Bombay. Out of them, only two, the library of the Bombay Mechanics Institute (hereafter referred to as BMI) the Fort Improvement Library (hereafter referred to as Petit Institute) gained prominence and stability along with the library of the Bombay Branch Royal Asiatic Society (hereafter referred to as BBRAS) and the Bombay Native General Library (hereafter referred to as BNGL). Therefore a brief account of the development made by these libraries deserves a special mention.

The Bombay Mechanics Institute[52]

The Bombay Mechanics Institute was formed by some mechanics employed in Government Mint, Bombay and in the Government Dockyard etc. on 30th Oct.1847[53]. The inspiration to establish this institute might have come from two sources. Firstly the establishment of the Bombay Native General Library and secondly the establishment of Mechanics Institutes in Great Britain at that time.

Objects of this institution were "diffusion of mechanical scientific and general knowledge which is most readily acquired when illustrated by models and diagrams"[54]. To achieve these objects,it was proposed to have a Reading Room, Lecture room, Museum and Library in connection with it.

As per rules of the institute, both Indians and Europeans were admitted as members[55] on payment of entrance fee of Rs. 15 and monthly contribution of 2 Rupees or 24 Rupees per year. Life Members were enrolled on payment of 120 Rupees in one sum. Members were elected by ballot by a vote in his favour of 2/3 members present.

There was a class of Individuals paying 3 Rupees per month and were given all privileges of members except voting and holding office. After 18 months, he was eligible to become member at 2 Rupees per month. Individuals were admitted as indoor readers at 2 Rupees per month. Junior members of 15 months' standing were admitted to members according to the rules of the library at 2 Rs per month. Member had the privilege of taking one work at a time not to exceed 3 volumes and one magazine or one periodical while new (A periodical was considered new for one month after arrival in the library).

Sir Erskine Perry, Chief Justice of Bombay and its first President. This institute was first housed in the room of the clocktower over the entrance of the Government Dockyard, Marine Street, Fort, Bombay. In 1848, it was

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shifted to a hired room in Fort and there its meeting were held till 1862 when it reverted to the previous clock-tower and worked there upto 1870[56].

Regular activity carried out by the Institute was arrangement of lectures on scientific and technical subjects. Government of Bombay sanctioned an annual grant of Rs.300 for these lectures since 1856. These lectures were popular among the members. Lectures,especially on scientific and technical subjects were attended by a large gathering. For example, lectures by Mr.T.Cooke, of the Poona Civil Engineering College on Spectrum Analysis, Physical forces, were attended by a large gathering.[51]

The Library and the Reading Room

Major activity carried out by this institute was running a library especially of scientific and technical publications, including the Patents. Later on popular literature,newspapers and magazines were added to the library on an increasing scale and attained the status of a public subscription library. This library activity was increased from 1866 and received good support from 1870 when it started working in its new building. Reports about working of the library are available from 1866-67. Therefore, the development of the library has been described from 1866 onwards.

Types of readers served by the Library

Bombay is an international harbour having a good dockyard and a naval centre. There is a constant flow of travellers, seafarers, seamen, naval officers. Number of mechanics were working in the mint, in the dockyard and such other offices. Offices of trading companies were located in the Fort area and a number of traders also resided in that area. Requirements of such people were met by this library. The site of this library was very convenient, at a small distance from the Dockyard, the Sea and the Mint. Therefore, this library was used by specific types of readers like Sea-farers, travellers, naval officers, mechanics and soldiers.

In 1866-67[58], there were 326 members on its roll and an amount of Rs.5480 was received as subscription. It received 28 periodicals, 7 reviews, 28 newspapers (12 Indian and 16 English), purchased 133 works in 229 volumes and 1469 specifications of patents were possessed by the library. During this year 11152 books, 5045 issues of periodicals and 1450 issues of newspapers were issued. The library made steady progress in the next decade with an independent building in 1870.

During 1881-82[59], 354 members were on the roll, 9498 books and 3051 patents were possessed by the library. 18607 books, 4780 periodicals and 3874 newspapers were issued during the year. Out of the income of Rs.6435, Rs.2671 were spent on establishment charges, Rs.897 on books, Rs.1032 on newspapers and about Rs.1000 on other charges.

Fort Improvement Library (The Petit Institute)

The Fort Improvement Library was established in 1856 by the students of the Elphinstone College among whom was Mr. Jamsetji N Tata[61], Parsee Industrialist to contribute to their individual and collective improvement by a judicious use of the stock of the books which they possessed - a sort of mutual lending library was thought of[62].

It was accommodated firstly in a private dwelling house and moved to a central position in Fort area in Rampart Row in 1857. It was open to all and enrolled 115 members at the end of the first year (85 First class members paying 8 annas per month and 30 subscribers paying 5 annas per month), all Parsi Zoroastrians. In one year, 900 volumes were collected out of which 400 were given by Parsee members as deposit to the library. Some periodicals were received gratis from members, 5 newspapers from Bombay were received on half subscription and 2 newspapers with full subscription. During the year ending on 31 Octobder 1857, an amount of Rs.423-4-0 was collected by way of subscriptions and Rs.165-8-0 were obtained as donations. Out of this amount Rs.94 were spent on subscription to newspapers and periodicals. Rs.110 for books, Rs.71 for rent, Rs.128 for sepoy's salary, Rs.51 for furniture and Rs.15 for oil.

In the first annual general meeting of the subscribers held on 4th December 1857[63] with Mr. A. Gordon Fraser[64] in Chair, report of the working of the library since its inception

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was read and the first Committee of Management was appointed with Framjee Nusserwanjee[65], its Patron, A.G.Fraser, its Vice Patron, Mr. Nowrosjee Furdoonjee, its President[66] and Mr. Edulji Shapurji as Secretary.

Cheap rates of subscription were prescribed for membership atAs.8 for First Class and As 5 for second class in 1856. Third class members were admitted from 1859. These rates were increased to Re.1 for First Class. As 12 for Second class and As 8 for third class members in 1861. The library made steady progress in all directions as follows -

Year	No. of members	No.of books.	Periodicals subscribed		Issue of	
			No.	Copies	Books	Periodicals
1856	21					
1857	115	900	19			
1858	137	1097			763	697
1862	224					
1866	263					
1876			51	58		
1891	782	5000				
1894					9000	14000
1898	1150		140	224		

The Bombay Native General Library

From July 1853 to 1856[67] the library was in a bad condition due to three causes. Firstly the late Secretary

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had no time to devote for the efficient management and supervision of the library. Secondly neglect and apathy of the late librarian and lastly the unsighty obscure and gloomy character of the premises in which the library has been located.[68]

This position was changed when the former secretary resigned and the charge of the library was taken by Shri A.F.Moos as the Honorary Secretary in Sept. 1857. At that time, the monthly income of the library was Rs.77 and the expenditure was Rs.95. House rent had not been paid for 21 months. As there were no funds in their hands, the Committee sold one Government Promissory Note of Rs.500/-, membership was increased, collected donations and repaid the house rent of Rs.750 and other debts,keeping a balance of Rs.209 with the Secretary on 31 December 1857[69].

In February 1858 there were 26 First Class members, 43 second class members and 81 third class members on the roll of the library accruing a monthly income of Rs.51, 38 and 20 respectively. From this income, monthly expenditure of Rs.103 was made (Rs.30 on House rent, 35 Rs. for establishment, Rs.8 for oil and sundry expenses and the remaining amount was spent on four local daily English Newspapers and 18 magazines and reviews were subscribed.[70]

With this start, the enthusiastic and innovative Secretary made vigorous attempts to make the financial

position sound by various measures. From these funds, fresh books were purchased from time to time.

In August 1864, the library was housed in the rent free rooms of the Framji Cowasji Institute in central locality, which brought stability and prosperity to the library.[71]

From 1857 to 1863, there was slow increase in the membership, daily attendance and issue of books. But as soon as it was shifted to the new building and was equipped with new furniture, supplied with new books, newspapers and magazines, the membership, attendance and issue of books increased rapidly as follows.[72]

Year	Members	Daily attendance	Issue of books each month
1857	147		
1858	171		45
1862	217		
1863	256	55 to 60	245 to 250
1864	293	75 to 80	245 to 260
1865	328	80 to 90	250 to 260
1866	301	80 to 90	250 to 260 - 55 Decrease in 2nd class subscribers
1867	318	80 to 85	250 to 300
1868	353	85 to 90	700 to 750
1870	416	90 to 95	900 to 950
1877	450	120	900
1878	437	120	900
1879	409	120	900

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By the end of 1879[73], the library had Rs.9909 in the New Book Fund Account, Rs.6300 as Life Member's Accounts, Rs.3800 as Donation Account and Rs.47985 in Capital Account being the cost of books, furniture and other property possessed by the library. Rs.20154 were invested in Government Promissory Notes accruing and interest of Rs. 800 each year. Subscriptions received amounted to Rs.3817 out of which Rs.2232 were spent on Establishment, Rs.1069 on Newspapers and periodicals, Rs.110 for Gaslight and Rs.500 on other expenses. Thus the BNGL remained the most prosperous native library in Western Maharashtra.

The Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society

The BBRAS made constant progress during this period. In 1885[74], the Society had 159 Resident Members and 63 Non-Resident Members. From the income of Rs.14498, Rs.5255 were spent on establishment charges, Rs.4533 on books, Rs.1887 on subscriptions to periodicals, Rs.549 for binding and the remaining amount on other items of expenditure. 621 books were added during this year. The issue of books was maximum - 17832 New Books and periodicals and 7361 old books. It had an excellent collection of books in many languages exceeding 30000 volumes. Financial position was sound and had a Reserve fund of Rs.7500/-

The progress made by other libraries in Bombay has been described in Table No. 3

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The Library Buildings

Important feature of the development of the libraries at District towns was that all the libraries had their own buildings by the end of 1889.

In 1863, the Richardson Reading Room and library at Dhulia was converted into the Dhulia Native General Library, Mr.Richardson, the District Judge at Dhulia was elected as its President and the Headmaster of the English school as its Secretary. The English School and the library had good relations. Upto 1887, somebody from the English School was appointed as its Secretary. It was registered with the Director of Public Instruction under GR 252 dated 6-5-1867 for grant of books[75]. In 1869,a two storey building was erected for the Marathi School. At this time, it was decided to erect a building for the library. It was completed in 1871[76] at the Joint expenses of Dhulia Municipality (estd 1860) and a wealthy Banker Sheth Hanumandas Sevakdas[77] at a cost of Rs. 2000/- . The Bombay Government sanctioned a grant of Rs.500/- for this purpose in 1872.[78]

Budhwar Palace where the Poona Native General Library was located caught fire in 1879 which caused a lot of damage to the library. Only 46 books that were returned by the readers were saved.[79] Subscriptions were therefore raised for a new library building. The new building in the heart of the city was erected at a cost of Rs.25170 in 1889[80] for which the Bombay Government sanctioned a grant of Rs.8000

but actually paid Rs.12075[81]. It was inaugurated by the Governor of Bombay Lord Reay on 30 July 1889[82]. Building of the Native General Library, Thana (Mullock) library was built in 1882 with the financial assistance of Rs.1727 and site for the library from Bombay Government[84].

The Kolhapur Native Library was accommodated in a house which was acquired on pawn (pledge) for the library for a period of 10 years in Oct. 1870[85]. As the period of the pawn was to be ended in 1880, building fund was raised and an amount of Rs.3600 was collected during 1878-79[86] out of which the Maharaja of Kolhapur granted Rs.2000. In 1881 the building was completed at a cost of Rs.20000/- out of which the library contributed Rs.6141, The Kolhapur Municipality Rs.1000/- and the rest amount by the Kolhapur State [87]. In Jan. 1882, the library was housed in the new building, located in the heart of the city and in the vicinity of the English School, the Palace of Maharaja of Kolhapur and the Mahalaxmi Temple. It is preserved up-till-now for its architectural features.

The Sangamner Native Library[88], the Malegaon City Library[89] and the Reading rooms at Malcolm Peth[90] and Vita[91] had buildings of their own. A fine hall was built for the Parsi library from municipal funds.[92] But the building of the Malegaon City library was destroyed by the floods in 1872 and had to work in rented rooms[93]. Building of the Vengurla Native General Library[94] was built in 1871 with the financial assistance by the Bombay Government[95].

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Buildings for Libraries in Bombay

At Bombay, the Bombay Native General Library, the Sassoon Mechanics Institute and the Petit Institute had buildings of their own which brought stability and prosperity to these libraries.

We have already seen that the Bombay Native General Library was housed in the rent free rooms of the E.C.Institute in August 1864. Thus it gained permanent accommodation with sufficient space for its development. Since the shifting of the library to the new building, the locality being central, there was increase in the daily attendance of readers from 15 to 75 and about 245 to 260 works were issued every month[96].

On 15th October 1863, Mr. David Sassoon[98], the Merchant Prince of Bombay, presented Rs.60,000 to Government of Bombay to provide a suitable building for the Bombay Mechanics Institute on the condition that the Government will also contribute a like sum. Government of Bombay generously gave a like donation of Rs.43000 and extensive site on the Esplanade measuring 1485 square yards on lease of 999 years at a nominal rent of Rupee One per year. In the meanwhile David Sassoon died (1864). In order to commemorate his memory, the name of the Bombay Mechanics Institute was changed to the David Sassoon Mechanics Institute on 21st Feb. 1867 when the foundation stone of the building was laid down. The people of Bombay collected an amount of Rs.25000 as Sassoon Memorial

Fund and this sum was added for this purpose. The building was completed at a cost of Rs.1,25,000/- and was finally handed over to the Institute on behalf of the Government on 16 May 1870 when the Institute started humming with activity.[99]

Mr. Jamsetjee Nesserwanjee Petit[100] became a life member of the library in 1874 and later was elected as one of the members of the Committee of Management. He took lively interest in the welfare and progress of the library till his premature death in 1888. In 1891 his bereaved father Nesserwanjee Petit endowed the library with a sum of Rs.25000 with a view to perpetuate the memory of his only son[101]. In recognition of this gift, the name of the library was changed to the Jamsetjee Nesserwanjee Petit Fort Reading Room and Library[102]. Four years later, (1895), Bai Dinabai Nesserwanjee Petit, in loving memory of her son donated an amount of Rs. 2,50,000/- for establishing an ideal public library and reading room[102]. Out of these funds the plot of land on which the present Institute stands was obtained from the late Mr. Jamsetjee Nesserwanjee Tata and the Government of Bombay and on 16th March 1896, the foundation was laid for a large palatial building with two stories and two mezzanine floors. The building was completed and opened for use on 1st May 1898[103]. By a Deed of Settlement, the constitution of the governing body was framed in that year with the objects of 'the diffusion of knowledge by means of a Reading Room and Library and a Hall for delivery of lectures on literary,

scientific and other subjects[104]. The name of the library changed as the Jamsetjee Nesserwanjee Petit Institute.

Aspects of Development and Changing Character of the Libraries

The growth and development of these libraries has been described in the annual reports, minutes of the meetings of the Committee of Management, the rules of the library and other documents. From the analysis of these documents, it would be interesting to know the various aspects of development of libraries, the changing character of the libraries, the nature and direction of change in relation to the Foundation and objects, Members and their privileges, Library finance, Acquisition of reading materials and the use of the libraries, Organisation and management of libraries and persons who led the library movement.

Foundation and Objects of Native General Libraries

Though the Government of Bombay did not plan any programme for expanding the network of libraries, various officers at Taluka and other places, mostly inspired by the impetus given by the Board of Education for establishment of native libraries during 1850-56 took lead in the establishment of native libraries at places other than Bombay. For example, in the Poona subdivision, the Assistant Collectors took interest in establishing and promoting the cause of native libraries[105]. In the Sholapur District, the libraries at

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Barshi[106] and Pandharpur[107] were established in 1863 and 1874 by Sub-collectors Rao Saheb Venkatrao Jivaji and Rao Bahadur Lalshankar Umiashankar respectively. At other towns, the lead to establish libraries was taken by enlightened Indians such as pleaders, teachers, authors connected with the field of education, law etc. For example, at Kolhapur[108], though the European members of the Kolhapur Native Library formed a separate library with the name Agency Book Club in 1867, the educated Indians took over the management of the library and planned a programme for the revival of the library. On the contrary at Satara[109], the Satara Station Library of the Europeans was merged into the Satara City Library where Indians had a majority.

At the same time, we find establishment of separate libraries at district towns and hill stations by Europeans for their own purpose[110]. For example, libraries for Europeans were established at Malegaon Camp, Matheran, Kolhapur (Agency Book Club) besides the Station libraries at Poona, Malcolmpeth and Satara (upto 1866) established earlier. Some libraries and reading rooms were attached to European clubs.

This separatist tendency among the Europeans may be ascribed to two factors. Firstly the Europeans were residing outside the city areas like cantonment, camp and the native libraries were situated in city areas. Secondly their needs as to reading materials were different from Indians. They required reading material in English and mostly from England

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while the Indians required reading materials in vernacular languages besides in English published in India. Their requirements were not fulfilled in the native libraries during this period. Special privileges in respect of issue of books and periodicals enjoyed by the Europeans were also gradually withdrawn.

At Bombay, out of the newly established libraries 3 libraries were established by Christian missionaries, 1 by Khoja Community (Muslims) 4 by Hindus, and 5 by Parsees. Out of the 18 libraries which were in existence in 1890' 4 were managed by Christian missionaries, 12 by Indians[111] and 2 by Europeans. Thus the efforts of the Christian missionaries to start libraries in Bombay had been slowed down, mostly due to the policy of religious neutrality laid down by the British government after the mutiny of 1857. But the Indians - the Parsees, the Khojas, the Hindus, the Gujaratis had attempted to establish new libraries and contributed towards the progress of these libraries.

From all these developments it seems that the European initiative in respect of establishment of native libraries was diminishing. On the contrary Indian initiative for promoting the native libraries was slowly increasing.

There was change in the objects of these institutions also. Object of the Bombay Mechanics Institution[112] was to diffuse mechanical, scientific and general knowledge which is readily acquired when illustrated by models and diagrams.

It was an European Institution. To educate the European technical persons staying at Bombay was its chief aim.

Whereas the aim of the Fort Improvement Library[113] was to contribute to the individual and collective improvement of the students of the Elphinstone College by a judicious use of the books which they possessed.

It was purely an Indian institution. The chief aim was to improve the mental condition of the Indians and to satisfy the cravings of mental appetite of the newly educated Indian students. This attempt therefore has been described by Maneckjee Dorabjee as a 'Sure symptom of the awakening of the Native mind'.[114] Requirements of the Indians are considered by this library.

Members and their privileges

As per rules of these libraries, both Europeans and Indians were admitted as members of these libraries.

Though Europeans had a majority in the libraries of the BBRAS and SMI, there was constant increase of Indians as members of these institutions. For instance, 274 Europeans and 52 Indians were members of the SMI library in 1866-67. This number increased to 258 Europeans, 81 Indians, 15 Jews in 1881-82 and 413 Europeans and 136 Indians in 1885-86. At the BBRAS, in 1864, number of members was 160 Europeans and 44 Indians, which stood to 70 Indians and 162 Europeans in

1884-85. At other libraries in Bombay, Indians formed majority. At the BNGL, the Europeans were decreasing. From the statistics maintained by the Librarian regarding issue of books, it is observed that books were issued to 94 Parsees, 102 Hindus, 42 Christians and 1 Mohamedan in 1869[115]. In 1878, this number stood to 89 Parsees, 103 Hindus, 26 Christians and 2 Mahomedans. 375 Indians and 25 Christians were on the roll of the Petit Institute Library in 1881.

Among the Indian members, the Parsees participated in the Bombay librarieson an increasing scale which is evident from the following figures. There are other reasons also. The number of educated Parsees was increasing. Parsee population was more in the localities where these libraries were established. Parsees had better political awakening than other religious groups at that time in Bombay.

Library	Year	Number of members				
		Parsees	Hindus	Muslims	Christians	Total
BNGL**	1860	76	82	2 1	27	188
BNGL	1874	114	125	2 0	28	269
BNGL	1878	89	103	2 0	26	218
PIL	1857	115	-	- -	-	115
(Petit Inst)	1881	350	20	5 0	25	400
SMI	1866-67	52	Indians		274*	326
SMI	1881-82	81	Indians	15+	258*	354
SMI	1885-86	86	21	5 23+		413
SMI	Life Members	55	14	1 9+	42*	121
BBRAS	1864	44	Indians		160*	204

* Europeans **Based on issue cards. + Jews.

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At district towns and other places, the Hindus had majority and among the Hindus the Brahmins formed a major section of members in these libraries. They were connected with the field of education and teaching profession. The percentage of Brahmin students undergoing education at schools and colleges was more than other religious groups or caste groups. Besides, Brahmins, persons from other religious groups were enrolled as members.

At district towns, the number of European members was small and that, too decreasing in most of the libraries. For example at the Kolhapur Library, the number of European members was 6 in 1866, 2 in 1877 and nil in 1880. The Nasik Library had 15 European members out of the total 56 members in 1879.

It seems that the admission to native libraries at district towns and other places was not open to untouchables. For instance, at the Kolhapur Native Library in 1879, application of Dhanu Vallad Imam, Bhangi by Caste, for membership of the library was rejected by the Managing Committee on the ground that he belonged to Bhangi Caste - an untouchable[116]. This instance indicated the attitude of higher caste Hindus to the untouchables.

Categories of membership

After an examination of the rules of the libraries framed, it has been found that in all the Native General

Libraries, the members were categorized into different classes such as the First class, Second class, Third class and subscribers or Students class with varying rates of subscription & privileges. The Hindu society has been stratified into different castes with hierarchy. Similarly, there is a large variation in the income received, the level of education, the aptitude for reading of the Indian people. There is a tendency among higher classes to keep a distance from lower class. This social structure has been reflected in categorization of members into various classes with higher rates of subscription and additional privileges to higher class members.

On the contrary we find only one class of members and a class of subscribers where the Europeans had a majority such as the BBRAS, the SMI. At the SMI, as there was no class of subscribers[117], provision was made for casual visitors such as travellers passing through Bombay or officers of vessels in the Harbour on a voyage or soldiers with the sanction of the President or Secretary, at the rate of 8 Annas per week and were allowed to use the Reading room only[118].

Rates of Subscription

Cheaper rates of subscription were prescribed as the income of the average Indians was low.

The BNGL prescribed 4 As as the minimum rate of subscription in 1845 for the third class members. This rate was increased to Rs.6/- per year in 1866 in order to meet

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the demand for additional copies of newspapers and magazines - an increase in the minimum rate of subscription after 22 years of its fixation in 1845.

Due to this increase, there was decrease in the number of third class members from 205 in 1865 to 133 in 1867. But this decrease was compensated by increase in the number of the First and Second class members from 40 (First Class) and 65 (Second Class) members in 1865 to 50 First class and 114 second class members in 1867. This increase may be attributed to the fresh purchase of 3000 books from England.

The Petit Institute prescribed the subscription rate at 8 As and 5 As per month for the First class and the Second class members in 1857 respectively and introduced Third class in 1859. The rate of subscription of the Third class members was increased to 8 As per month in 1861 but due to great opposition from the Third and Second class members, it was reduced to 6 As per month in 1864 and remained the same in 1877. Rate of subscription of the First and Second class members was increased to Rs.1 and As 8 per month in 1861. But the rate of subscription of the First class members was increased further in 1864 to Rs.1-8-0 per month by voting at the annual general meeting, and remained the same in 1877.

Rates of subscription of the Second and First Class members at the BNGL were Rs.12 and Rs.24 per year. The

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rates of subscription at the SMI Library remained at Rs.6 per quarter during this period.

Due to comparatively cheaper rates of subscription, than the BBRAS, there was rapid increase in the membership of other libraries in Bombay as follows

Library	Year	Number of Members
BNGL	1857	147
	1864	293
	1877	450
	1879	409
SMI	1866-67	326
	1885-86	549
Petit Institute	1857	115
	1866	263
	1891	782

The highest rates of subscription were that of the BBRAS at Rs.100/- per year both for its members and subscribers. Constant efforts were made to reduce this rate.

Though the members were successful in reducing the subscription of non-resident members to Rs.15 in 1853, great opposition was made to reduce the amount of subscription of members and subscribers for the library[121]. Fear was expressed that due to reduction in the subscription rate, the Society will have to suffer losses and to face financial instability resulting into suspension of some of the services offered and activities started. Second reason was that put forward was regarding the objects of the institute for

which the Society was created and maintained. To convert the Institution into a circulating library would be to forfeit all claim to the support which the Society as a scientific body has upto that time received fromthe Government of Bombay[122]. It is a literary activity for the pursuit of knowledge. These high aims of the Society are valuable for which people aspire for its membership.

But the pressure to reduce the subscription was very high during 1870 as the BBGL, the SMI and the Petit Institute all from Fort Area, offen competing with each other provided fresh books and newspapers from England and India at a cheaper rate of subscription (Rs.24 maximum).

It was therefore reduced to Rs.75 for Members and Rs.50 for subscribers in 1874[123]. In order to compensate the loss that might be suffered due to reduction in the amount of subscription, a new class "Life Members" was created, with Rs.600 as its subscription in lump-sum[124]. This provision proved well and the Society received a constant source of income as an amount of Rs.500/- was invested in Government Securities and the remaining amount of Rs.100/- and the interest received each year oninvestment was utilized for current expenses of the library.

But the experiment of reduction in the amount of subscription of members and subscribers was unsuccessful.

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By reducing the amount of subscription it was expected that the number of members and subscribers would increase. But the income of Rs.10902/- received next year (1874) from subscriptions was less than that of the previous year by over Rs.3187/-. Therefore in 1877, rates of subscription, both for Members and Subscribers were raised to Rs.75/-.

Due to high amount of subscription and procedure of ballot for admission, few members were admitted each year to this institute and increase in membership was very slow. This can be seen from the following figures.

Year	Members		Subscribers
	Resident	Non-resident	
1840	82	38	17
1864	157	41	-
1885	159	63	3

Question may be asked why was it that even with the increase in the rate of subscription to Rs.75, the number of members of the BBRAS did not decrease. It may be pointed that the membership of the BBRAS was a matter of prestige and status to many and therefore, many Indians and Europeans were members of two or more libraries simultaneously. Dr.Bhau Daji was member of the Committee of Management of the BNGL and at the same time of the BBRAS. Same is true about Sir V.N.Mandlik, Sir K.T.Telang and other eminent Indians of that time.

Kolhapur Native Library prescribed the rates of subscription commensurate with the income of the members

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Class of subscribers	Income per month of year	Rate of subscription
1	Rs.200 per month or Rs.2400 per year or above	Rs.2 per month
2.	Rs.100 per month or Rs.1200 per year or above	Rs.1 per month.
3.	Rs.30 per month or Rs.360 per year or above	As. 4 per month.
4.	Those who know only Marathi language	To pay half the above rate of subscription, the minimum rate remained As 4.

This rule takes into consideration the capacity of the member to pay for library services. Different rates of subscription are prescribed for the same service depending on the income of the members. This step was towards social justice.

The rule regarding Marathi knowing subscribers takes into consideration the extent of use the reader can make of the library. As most of the books were in the English language, many of the members who knew only the Marathi language were less benefitted from the library. Therefore those who could read materials only in the Marathi language were prescribed half the rate of subscription prescribed for other members. This step was towards making the library more public or general.

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Number of Members - Classwise

At all these libraries the number of First Class Members was small as compared to Second Class and Third Class Members. Increase in the number of Second Class and Third Class members were more than the First Class Members. Compare the following figures[127]

Library	Year	Class I	Class 2	Class 3	Life members	Total
BNG L	1858	26	43	81	Nil	150
	1865	40	65	205	18	328
	1867	50	114	133	21	318
	1879	40	153	174	42	409
Petit Institute	1857	85	30	-	-	
	1859	36	64	37		
	1862	57	111	56		
	1898	172	171	1028		

At district towns, the figures for membership of Native Libraries at Kolhapur, Poona and Thana throw light on this phenomena

Library	Year	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	Students	Total
Kolhapur	1875	9	21	14	49	23	116
	1877	12	20	15	64	34	145
	1880/81	13	16	24	86	7	146
Poona[128]	1879	10	14	77			101
Thana[129]	1879-80	7	12	23	3		45

From the above figures it is observed that there was slow increase in the number of members of classes with higher rates of subscription such as the First, Second, sometimes

remaining stable. But the number of members belonging to the third and fourth classes with cheaper rates of subscription was constantly on increase. At Kolhapur, the number of Fourth class members paying 4 Annas per month and knowing only the Marathi language doubled during a period of five years. This increase may be ascribed to purchase of more Marathi books by the library and the spread of education in Kolhapur at that time. It seems that a taste for reading was being developed among the Marathi knowing educated Indians at Kolhapur. This phenomena indicates the capacity of an average Indian to pay for the library. The rate of 4 Annas per month was prescribed by the BNGL in 1845.

Even this rate was felt higher by many people. In order to attract more subscribers from the lower income group, the Kolhapur Native Library resolved in 1882[130] that "Bhikshuks, Shastris and Vernacular Masters and persons having a monthly income of Rs.8 or less should be admitted as subscribers on their paying One Anna per month. The subscription should be paid in advance for every quarter. This class too have the right to use the newspapers only".

Students were admitted as subscribers in many of these libraries and were charged at cheaper rate of subscription. For instance at Kolhapur Native Library[131], students were admitted in 1868 on payment of 2 Annas per month, which was reduced to 1 Anna per month in 1874-75 with the privileges of

reading in the library. 27 students were using the library in 1874-75 mostly by the efforts of B.P.Modak, the Secretary of the library and teacher in the English school. This number decreased to 7 in 1880-81. As compared to the school and college going populations this number is meagre.

Law Students' Library[132]

It was located in the premises of the BNGL since 1859. It was started in January 1859 and contained books placed at the disposal of the Law Students for their use by E.I.Howard, Director of Public Instruction, Bombay Presidency, Students of Law Classes were eligible for members and were charged entrance fee of Rs.2/- and monthly subscription of 8 Annas. 33 students took advantage of the library. The library contributed Rs.96 each year to the BNGL from 1859 to 1870 for this facility.

At the Kolhapur Native Library, the composition of members by profession was as follows[133]

Profession of subscribers	1875	1876	1877	1878/79	1879/80
Barders	11	11	14	12	12
Officers & Clerks	24	51	37	49	38
Pleaders & Mooktiars	13	15	10	9	9
Masters & Tutors (High school & vernacular teachers)	23	28	20	25	22
Engineering Dept.	12	12		13	9
Merchants	2	2	1	3	4
Students	27	27	41	27	18
Artisans			1		
Europeans			2		
Misc.	4	11	19	21	26
	116	137	145	146	138

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From this table it may be obse ved that about 35 per-cent members by profession were officers and clerks, about 55 per cent members were connected with the field of education either as Teachers or students, Persons from the legal profession started using this library, since 1875 as they required books and journals about Law and other subjects. Members of other professions were about 10%. Few members came from the higher social class such as Sardars, Seths and Sahukars, Chiefs of states etc.

The variation in the number of members of the same class in different periods can be accounted for the personality and enthusiasm of the office bearers of the library at different times. Number of new books added can also be one of the reason.

The increase in the membership of the libraries was very slow. At district towns the number of members ranged from 45 to 195. The Kolhapur Native Library had maximum number 195 in 1883. As compared to membership of these libraries in 1855, the membership has been at the most doubled during a period of 25 years though the number of educated Indians was on increase.

The Privileges of Members

As per rules of the library, the First Class members enjoyed many privileges. They could take the newspapers home, could peruse the new arrivals first and also could take two

or more sets of works to home for reading. The second class members could peruse the periodicals and new books after the perusal of periodicals and books by First class members, and could take one or more books home.

The third class members at the BMGL could use the reading room only. They were not eligible to take books home[134]. However the third class members of the Petit Institute were permitted to read the fresh newspapers and magazines on the reading room table and to take one set of books home[135].

Among members and subscribers, preferential treatment was given to Members. For example, at the BBRAS, 15 volumes at a time for three months and five volumes for one month were issued to members and subscribers respectively.[136] While issuing books, preference was given to members when the books were required both by members and subscribers.[137]

But this pattern of privileges was changed in some of the libraries.

At Kolhapur, three first class members from the Camp area mostly Europeans, were allowed to open the fresh daily newspapers at their residence first and then these were sent to the library. This special privilege of these members was withdrawn in 1871. Instead, it was decided to open all the daily newspapers first in the library and to issue them to First Class members at Midday and at night[138]. Due to this

measure, the library had to suffer a loss of Rs.72 per year as these members discontinued their membership. But this changed system attracted new members to the library. 69 members were enrolled with an income of monthly subscription of Rs.42 at the end of 1871. Thereafter the number of members increased year by year.

Further in 1872, the system of sending newspapers to the residence of First class members was discontinued by the Kolhapur Native Library. This is a step towards democratisation of the library[139] and bridging the gap between the rich and the poor.

One thing was common to all the members and subscribers that all the fresh newspapers and magazines were kept first on the reading room table for perusal of all categories of members and subscribers.

Right to vote and participation in the management of the Library

The class of subscribers and the class of students had no right to vote at the annual meeting and were not eligible for contesting the election of the Committee of Management. The subscribers of the BBRAS library and the 6 Annas subscribers i.e. Third class members of the DNGL come under this category. The non-resident members of the BBRAS had right to vote, if present at the meeting but not the right to become member of the Committee of Management.

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Distinguishing feature of the Petit Institute was that the third class members were eligible to vote for election of office-bearers and other library matters at the general meeting but were not eligible for election as Directors or Auditors[140]. (The members of the Committee of Management were called "Directors" at the Petit Institute). Only the first and second class members were eligible for election on the Committee of Management of the library.

As compared to the privileges given to third class members of the BNGL, this rule is a step forward in the direction of democratisation of the institute. In the history of the Petit Institute, we find constant struggle for giving rights to Third class members on the Committee of Management at the annual general meeting held.

At Kolhapur Native Library in 1882, the Managing Committee consisted of 10 members, 4 to be elected from First Class members, 3 from second class members, 2 from Third Class members and one from Fourth Class members.[141] Members paying Rs.5 and above per month were treated as Honorary members of the Managing Committee and can vote only when present[142]. From these rules, it is observed that more representation was given to higher class members and it was disproportionate to the number of members enrolled of higher classes. This structure was changed while framing detailed Rules of the Library in 1884[143]. There was great opposition for giving representation on the Managing Committee,class wise. It was decided that all the categories

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of members (Honorary members, and members of classes I to IV) excepting students, can vote at the annual general meeting and can become members of the Managing Committee, numbering 12[144].

Thus equal right was given to all categories of members for voting and to become members of the Managing Committee. This is a progressive step in the democratisation of the library as compared to provisions in this respect at libraries in Bombay like the Petit Institute and the BBRAS.

Library Finance

Subscriptions from members were the chief sources of income for all these libraries. Due to constant increase in membership and prescription of higher rates of subscription, the SMI library received an income of Rs.5480 in 1866 and Rs.6300 in 1879-80 while the BBRAS received an income of Rs.14089 in 1873 which was decreased to Rs.10,000 in 1874 due to reduction in the rate of subscription and remained to Rs.9673 in 1885. But due to cheaper rates of subscription, income received from membership subscription at other libraries in Bombay and at district places, was poor. For example, from membership subscription, the BNGL received Rs.3817 in 1879, the Petit Institute, Bombay received an income of Rs.423 in 1857, Rs.969 in 1859 and Rs.7079 in 1898 while the Kolhapur Native Library received Rs.498 in 1871, Rs.745 in 1872 and Rs.1500 in 1881-82.

Major portion of income from subscriptions was received from members paying at higher rates, such as the First Class,

Second Class etc. For example at the BMCL in Feb.1858, monthly income received from 26 First class members was Rs.51, that from 43 Second Class members was Rs.38 and that from 81 Third class subscribers was Rs.20 only. Similarly at Kolhapur, in 1875[125] maximum amount of subscription per month (Rs.39-8-0) was received from 9 First Class members paying Rs.24 and above p.a. followed by 21 Second class members paying Rs.12 to 24 p.a. (Rs.22) and 14 of Third class paying Rs.6 to 12 p.a. (Rs.7/-). Thus 75% of total income (Rs.81-13-0) per month was derived from 44 first, second and third class members. Only 16% income (Rs.13-5-0) was derived from 49 Fourth class subscribers (Rs.11-14-0) and 23 students (Rs.1-7-0) paying Rs.3 and As 12 p.a. respectively. From these figures, it may be observed that though the number of subscribers of Third and Fourth class increased, income from these classes of members was meagre due to cheaper rates of subscription. Though the income received from First and other higher class members was more, the number of such members was less in all these libraries and few members were added each year, sometimes remaining static. At other district towns, Europeans paid at higher rates of subscription. For example major part of the income was received from European residents at Nasik in 1870.[146] But this number was on decrease. Therefore there was slow increase in the income received from membership subscription which was not sufficient to meet the increasing needs of the libraries.

Life Members

To supplement the income received from membership subscription, novel schemes and devices were used to collect funds. A brief account of these is given below.

A new class of Life members was created by most of libraries. Bombay Mechanics Institute started it first and the subscription of Rs.120/- was prescribed in 1851[147] which was increased to Rs.150 in 1871. Those who paid the membership subscription continuously for 7 years were entitled to a concession of 50 Rupees (i.e. 100 Rupees) for Life members[148]. Upto 1881-82, 116 Life members (3 Europeans, 63 Indians and 10 Jews) were enrolled.

At the BNGL, a person paying Rs.150/- in one sum was given the privileges of First Class member for his life in 1860[149]. Subscriptions received from Life membership were kept as a Reserve Fund. Six life members were enrolled in the first year. This number increased to 42 in 1879.

Later on, other libraries in Bombay introduced the class of Life Members. The rates of subscription and the number of Life Members enrolled are indicated below

Library	Year of Introduction	Subscription	LM/year
BBRAS	1874[150]	Rs. 600	9 (1885) 8 Indians 1 European.
Petit Institute	1877[151]	Rs. 150/-	16 (1891).

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Indians showed great interest in these libraries by enrolling as Life Members on an increasing scale. From the list of Life Members, it has been observed that some rich and enlightened Indians paid Life Membership subscription of two or more Libraries in order to patronise these institutions.

From these amounts, reserve funds or capital funds were built. Upto 1885, the BBRAS invested major portion of this money into purchase of Government 4 per cent paper amounting to Rs.4500/- and received an interest of Rs.430 in 1885 which was utilized for the current expenses of the library. An amount of Rs.100 out of Rs.600 was also utilized towards the current expenses of the library. Rs. 6300 were in Life Member's account at BNGL in 1879.

Special mention must be made of the system of issuing certificates to Life Members of the BMI Library having member's names engraved on them and signed by the President and Secretary. The certificates were designed and lithographed in London at the expense of Rs.271-2-0 in 1875-76[152].

Even these sources proved inadequate for the financial needs of these libraries. Novel schemes were, therefore, launched by different libraries to collect funds. For example, the enthusiastic and innovative secretary of the BNGL Shri A. L.Moos made vigorous attempts to make the financial position of the library sound by the following measures.

Upto 1858, donations were collected and extended for the current expenses of the library there being no reserve fund with the library. The library therefore decided that donations exceeding Rs.100 each shall form the capital or Reserve fund, the interest on which shall be appropriated for meeting the current expenses of the library. Accordingly donations amounting to Rs.1775 were collected during 1858 and kept as Reserve Fund[153]. As the building of the Framjee Cowasjee Institute was to be ready, the Managing Committee opened a public subscription for the purchase of new, standard and useful works and a circular was sent to the wealthy Indians of Bombay, which was cordially supported by most of these and subscriptions amounting to Rs.26851 were raised during the year 1854[154] (List of donors given in Table 9). From these donations about 3000 new books covering all branches of knowledge were purchased in England[155].

New Book Fund Account

In order to maintain a regular supply of latest books in various subjects to the library each year, New Book Fund Account was opened in 1867[156]. Under this scheme, a donor could donate funds for purchase of new books in the subject of his choice. From the interest received on this account, new books were purchased in that subject. A separate account of the names of each donor was maintained in the Account Books of the library. Thus with the introduction of all these measures, the financial position of the library became sound. All the developments of the library

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were carried out from the funds collected from members and wealthy people in Bombay making permanent provision for future recurring expenditure of the library also.

By the end of 1879[157], the library had Rs.9909 in the New Book Fund Account, Rs.6300 as Life Members Account Rs.3800 as Donation Account and Rs.47985 on Capital Fund account being the cost of books, furniture and other property possessed by the library. Rs.20164 were invested in Government Promissory Notes securing an interest of Rs.900 each year. Subscriptions received amounted to Rs.3817 out of which Rs.2232 were spent on Establishment, Rs.1069 on Newspapers and periodicals, Rs.110 for Gaslight and Rs.500 on other expenses.

The Sassoon Family contributed sumptuous donations to the [illegible]I library from time to time. Sir Albert David Sassoon gave a sum of Rs.4500/- for bookshelves, tables etc. in 1870[158] and a time-piece costing Rs.552 in 1873[159]. Mr. S. .Sassoon donated Rs.5000 towards lecture hall building fund in 1884-85.[150] Philanthropic persons in Bombay paid donations from time to time. Jamsetjee N.Petit Life member, donated Rs.1000/- for purchase of books on Arts only from its interest in 1877-78[161]. At the Petit Institute, Framjee Nesserwanjee Patel paid subscription of Rs.15 per month from October 1856 and donated Rs.100 for furniture[162]. Thereafter he paid annually Rs.180 to the library. The Petit family, besides financing the beautiful building, gave various donations from time to time. A donation of Rs.10000 was given by Sir Dinshaw Manockjee Petit (1st Baronet)

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to form the nucleus of a book purchase fund. Elegant library furniture worth Rs. 10000/- was given by Bai Avanbai Framji Petit (sister of late Jamsetjee N. Petit). The private collection of late Mr. Jamsetjee Nesserwanjee Petit containing over 500 books including some rare and costly volumes was donated to this library[163]. At the BBRAS[164] donations were paid by Sir Jagannath Shankarshet[illegible], Sir Cowasjee Jehangeer Readymoney[165] for purchase of books in Natural History (Rs.5000) and Oriental literature respectively. Premchund Roychund[166] gave donations of Rs.10000 for the Museum.[167] A set of Encyclopedia Britannica was purchased from the donation of

Thus the Indians contributed towards the prosperity of the Society and its library.

From the names of persons who have enrolled as Life members and contributed towards the funds raised by these libraries from time to time, it may be seen that mostly Indians and especially the wealthy and philanthropic persons of the Parsee and Trading Community have contributed the major share of funds bringing sound financial position of the library.

During this period, the BMGL remained the most prosperous and flourishing native general library in Western Maharashtra.

Assistance from the Native States

The libraries established in the Native States received support from the state, the Chief of State, the Sardars, Jagirdars, the State Officials, in many ways. For example

the Kolhapur State donated about Rs.13000 for the building of the Kolhapur Native Library and services of 2 soldiers and 2 Kothkari's upto 1870 and one soldier from 1871.[169] The Sangli State financed the Sangli Library from 1864 to 1869 and later on granted Rs.320 each year and paid for the services of a soldier (Shipai) for the library[170]. The Ichalkaranji State financed the library by giving donations and paid for the services of one soldier.[171]

The Chiefs of States paid subscription at a high rate. For example the Maharaja of Kolhapur paid the subscription at Rs. 10 per month. The Sardesai of Sawantwadi at Rs.4 per month and paid donations for the library from time to time. Maharaja of Kolhapur paid Rs.2000/- for the building fund of the Kolhapur Library.

The Sardars also paid subscription at a higher rate of equal to that of First Class. For example, at Kolhapur 11 Sardars and minor chiefs were paying Rs.24 per year and contributed about 45% of the total income accrued from subscriptions from members in 1875. State officials supported the library by becoming members at higher class, by giving gratis periodicals subscribed privately, by giving donations of books from time to time and even becoming office bearers of the institution. Political Residents at Kolhapur donated books while returning to England.

Remarkable example of state support to a native library is that of Kolhapur. This is the earliest known attempt in Western Maharashtra. The Maharaja of Baroda followed this example later on in the twentieth century.

Assistance from Local Self-government Institutions

Municipalities established in the Bombay Presidency at various towns gave yearly grants to the native general libraries for recurring expenditure and donations for capital expenses like library buildings as follows[173]

Town	Amount of Grant Rs.	Year
Yeola	60.00	1880-81
Nasik	100.00	1880-81
Sinnar	24.00	1880-81
Malegaon	36.00	1880-81
Pandharpur	200.00	1882-83
Sangamner	48.00	1882-83
Dhulia	100.00	From 1860
Sholapur	300.00	1882-83
Barsi	60.00	1882-83
Ahmednagar	120.00	1882-83
Bassein (Vasai)	Not mentioned	1879-80
Poona	300.00 (For purchase of books)	1882-89[174]

The Municipalities of Poona, Dhulia, Kolhapur gave donations for construction of library buildings at their towns (Poona Rs.2500)(1882), Kolhapur (Rs.1000)(1880), Dhulia (1871). The libraries at Pandharpur and Barsi were provided with a hall by the Municipality.

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Thus the establishment of Local Self-government Institutions was a helping hand to the Native General Libraries.

Assistance from the Government of Bombay

It was the policy of the Government of Bombay to give money grants to libraries only in exceptional cases. Accordingly the Government of Bombay sanctioned grants for construction of library buildings only when the people themselves raised funds for the same at towns like Vengurla and Dhulia (Rs.500 each), Mullock Library, Thana (Rs. 1727 and site for the library), Poona (Rs.12058). An amount of Rs.45000 and site for building was granted to the Sassoon Mechanics Institute. The founders, office bearers and most of its members were Europeans. Hence this sumptuous grant might have been given. The Government of Bombay, through the Director of Public Instruction donated books and other publications such as the Selections from the Records of the Government of Bombay, Annual reports of the various government departments and other publications published by the Government. Besides these publications, publications purchased from the Fund for Encouragement of Literature and an amount of Rs.2000 each year kept at the disposal of the Director of Public Instruction for purchase of standard and useful books for distribution to educational institutions were given gratis to public libraries registered with the Director of Public Instruction for this purpose. Many of the publications

given gratis by the Government were not good for popular reading. Beyond this assistance, the Government of Bombay did not extend any financial support to the native general libraries. This support, as compared to the sums allocated for Education Department, during this period, was very meagre.

Participation of, and Assistance from Indians

Continuity and stability of any institution depends on the active participation of its members in the affairs of the institution and the interest they take in its progress by extending support in various ways for the well-being of the institution. As these libraries were established for the Indians, it was expected by the Government of Bombay that the Indians would take interest in these institutions and contribute towards their progress.

This expectation came true at Bombay, Kolhapur and some district towns to a certain extent. At Bombay, the educated Indians, the Parsees, the Hindus and other rich and wealthy people showed great interest in these institutions and developed the libraries in Bombay such as the BNQL, the Petit Institute Library, the SMI library, the library of the BBRAS. Indians enrolled as members of these libraries on an increasing scale, paid for life membership, raised funds for capital expenses of the library and laid down the foundation of these libraries on sound basis. Wherever such response is received from the members, the libraries have made remarkable progress.

Chiefs of Native States, Sardars and other eminent Indians in the Native States contributed for the development of the libraries in Native States. The progress of the Kolhapur Native Library has been achieved through the support of the State to the library.

Assistance fromthe Local Self-Government Institutes to Native General Libraries reflects the wishes of the people whom the members of the Municipality represented and gave a concrete shape in form of assistance.

From all these developments it may be observed that Indians were convinced of the usefulness of these institutes and therefore contributed towards the development of Native Libraries. This is an indication of the firm foundation being laid for the development of the libraries.

Reading Materials and the Use of the Libraries

Upto 1855, all these libraries were valued for the newspapers that were taken in these libraries. But as a taste for reading was being developed, some of the reading rooms were transformed into libraries, possessing good collection of readable books, supplied with fresh stock of books from time to time. The collection especially at Bombay libraries was increased with supply of new books. Catalogues of some libraries were published which indicate the nature of collection possessed by these libraries. They also maintained good reading rooms of newspapers and magazines.

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The libraries at district towns purchased few books every year. Therefore the collection of books increased slowly. More amount was spent on subscription of newspapers and magazines than for books.

At other towns, the libraries possessed very few books and subscribed to few newspapers and magazines in English as well as in the vernacular languages. These were mostly reading rooms. The number of educated Indians were few at these places. Similarly number of persons employed in Government offices, in schools, in judiciary, law, medicine were very few at these places. These libraries, therefore, could not progress well. As a matter of fact, many Indians at these towns might not have felt the need for a public library at all. We have to take into consideration the socio-economic background of the people in rural areas.

All these libraries had maintained reading rooms which were very popular among readers. Newspapers and magazines of the day in various languages were acquired and kept on the reading room table. The BBRAS library received 41 newspapers and 141 Journals, Reviews etc.(Total 182[175]) from various countries, either by purchase or by donation or exchange of the Society's journal, costing Rs.1887 in 1885. The BMI library received 28 periodicals, 7 Reviews, 28 Newspapers (12 Indian and 16 English), in 1866-67 and this number increased later on.

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More amount was spent on newspapers and magazines than on books. For example in 1872-73, Rs.1525 were spent on newspapers and periodicals and no amount on books and Rs.1032 on newspapers by the SMI library. Percentage of newspapers and magazines from England was more than Indian newspapers and magazines at both these libraries. For instance, in 1872-73, Rs.1076 were spent on newspapers and periodicals from England and Rs.489 were spent on Indian newspapers and periodicals by the SMI Library.

Number of novels etc. published in parts in various magazines, were extracted from magazines and bound up separately. In 1873-74, 128 works in 148 volumes were bound up in this way at the SMI library. While at the [illegible]RAS, out of the 181 newspapers and periodicals received in 1885, 45 periodicals were Indian (Newspapers 19, Journals, Reviews etc. 26) out of which one was Marathi, 3 were Sanskrit and 41 were English.

Popularity of the SMI Library, especially among the ordinary members rested on the newspapers and magazines received in the library. For instance, due to non-supply of newspapers and magazines from England, 47 members discontinued their membership during 1873-74. In 1866-67, 5045 issues of periodicals and 1450 issues of newspapers were issued. This number rose to 4780 periodicals and 3874 newspapers in 1880-81. On the contrary at other libraries in Bombay, number of newspapers and magazines from India and in the Vernacular languages were received on an increasing scale. For example at the [illegible]NGL

in 1858, 4 Bombay daily newspapers, 2 Indian magazines and 16 English reviews and magazines, 8 vernacular magazines, 8 English newspapers from India and 12 vernacular newspapers were subscribed. In 1865, 6 foreign and 11 Indian newspapers in English were subscribed besides 11 Gujarati, 6 Marathi, 3 Portuguese, 4 Gujarati and 24 English (10 from India and 14 from England). Thereafter periodicals mostly from India were subscribed.

At the Petit Institute Library, 7 newspapers were received at half subscription costing Rs.94 in 1857. The next year, 10 new journals were subscribed. In 1859, Rs.247 were spent on newspapers and Rs.119 on periodicals and magazines and 697 newspapers were issued. 13 magazines and quarterly periodicals were circulated for first perusal of first class members after which they were available for use of other members. Due to limited stock of books (1097 volumes), more newspapers and magazines were sought than books.

In 1862, 1487 books and 146 magazines and reviews were issued to 224 members (57 First class, 111 Second class and 56 Third class). Due to more demand from readers, additional copies of some newspapers were purchased. For example in 1876 51 periodicals with 58 copies were subscribed which increased to 140 periodicals with 224 copies in 1898. The issue of periodicals therefore, increased to 14000 in 1894. Khoja General Reading Room and Library subscribed to 11 English

newspapers (6 from Europe and 5 from India), 6 Gujarati newspapers and 11 magazines in 1875[176].

At district places, newspapers and magazines were much in demand, during this period. These were costly especially to the Indians. These contained information on various events which caused them curiosity. By the invention of printing and advances made in the communication system, news about the various events and activities in India and from abroad were brought to the door of the Indian people. This was definitely a new event in the life of Indian people. It attracted the officers, teachers, students and others.

From the number of newspapers and magazines taken in by these libraries, it is noticed that the newspapers and magazines were subscribed on an increasing scale. Tendency was towards acquisition of periodicals from India (local and in the Bombay Presidency) than from England. Newspapers from Bombay in English were subscribed by most of these libraries.

The permentage of newspapers and magazines in the vernacular languages was increasing. Marathi weekly Dnyanprakash (Poona) and other magazines were subscribed by most of these libraries. For example, the Kolhapur Native Library subscribed to two English and six Marathi Newspapers costing Rs.125/- in 1870. This number increased to 11 English and 15 Marathi Newspapers and magazines costing Rs.322 in 1881. The library received gratis newspapers and magazines from the

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members of the library. (State Karbhari (Administrator) Barve gave 5 newspapers from 1870 to 1876. The Manager of the Dnyansagar gave 22 periodicals gratis to the library from 1878.

Daily attendance

Reading rooms were attended by all categories of members and subscribers. The daily attendance at the Petit Institute Library was 60 in 1859 and at the BNGL, 55 in 1863. This rose to 90 in 1876 at the Petit Institute library while at the BNGL it rose to 80 in 1865 due to shifting of the library to new building and gradually increased to 120 in 1877. The location of all these libraries was central and hence the attendance was more.

As the first class members were issued periodicals home and even had the privilege to peruse the fresh books first, these members might have attended the reading room occasionally. But the second class members and especially the third class members might have attended the reading rooms on an increasing scale as they were not issued fresh newspapers and magazines. This attendance increased due to purchase of more newspapers and magazines with multiple copies of popular newspapers by the library and secondly that most of the libraries decided to open the fresh newspapers first in the library and kept them on the reading room table.

At the start of the libraries, the reading rooms were kept open for some hours in the morning and in the evening.

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Later on the hours were extended from time to time for the convenience of the readers. For example the Reading room of the SMI library was kept open for longer hours from 6 a.m. till sunset on all week days except Sundays upto 1873[177]. This was changed to from 7 am to 7.30 p.m. on week days and from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sundays in 1874[178]. The reading room was in charge of a Hamal on Sunday. Most of the reading rooms were kept open upto Sunset because the cost for lighting the reading room either with oil or gas in Bombay was heavy.

On request from the Bombay Traders Association, the reading room of the SMI library was kept open upto 9 p.m. It costed 75 Rupees for 3 months with average attendance of 4 to 6 readers during 1876[179]. This practice was continued further with change of timing upto 8 p.m. The cost of gas amounted to Rs.240 in 1882-83 on account of the library being kept open till 8 p.m.

The SMI library started a ladies reading room during 1877-78[180] for a trial period of 3 months. A notice was given in the local newspapers, but it was rarely used and therefore this experiment was given up. This signifies the awareness of the office-bearers of this Institute to the needs of this section of the society. At the same time, it throws light on the social condition of women at that time in Bombay.

Members of all classes were treated equally in the reading room. This is a step towards equality of members in libraries.

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The reading room of the Kolhapur Native Library was open from 8 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. and in the evening from 4 to 7.30 p.m. From 1871 all the daily newspapers were opened first in the library and then were issued to First Class members at Midday and at Night. These were sent at their residence with the library peon. Even this system was discontinued in 1872. These changes attracted more readers in the reading room. The daily attendance was 15 in 1871 which rose to 50 in 1884-85.

Pupils from the English school and lower class members might have attended the reading rooms often.

The libraries at other district towns were popular for newspapers and magazines. The readers were attracted to these materials, as these contained news about the various happenings in India and in the world. The readers received this information at one place in the reading room table. As the price of newspapers and magazines was more and the average Indians were not able to purchase the newspapers and magazines, they enrolled as members of these libraries and took advantage of the reading room facility extended at a cheaper rate.

At other towns, reading room activity was prominent.

Additions of Books

Maximum amount was spent by the [illegible] on purchase of books every year. For example an amount of Rs.4500/- was spent towards books purchase in 1885 from which 621 new books

were purchased. This library purchased 3284 works in 5777 volumes from 1856-57 to 1865-66, and had a collection of more than 30000 volumes in 1881. But less amounts were spent by the SMI for purchase of books each year as this library spent more amounts on purchase of newspapers and periodicals. An amount of Rs.897 was spent on books in 1881-82. Additions of books numbered 133 works in 229 volumes in 1866-67 and 129 works in 1883-84. 9498 volumes were possessed by the library in 1881-82. In 1872-73, 413 works in 599 volumes costing Rs.4000/- were purchased due to receipt of more subscription from 31 life members enrolled newly.

The BBGL and other libraries could purchase few books every year from the income recived from membership subscription. The BBGL, therefore, collected donations of about Rs.27000 and purchased 3000 new books from England in 1867. In order to purchase fresh books regularly, New Book Fund Account was started and new books on different subjects were added each year.

From the above, it will be observed that special funds must be raised for purchase of adequate new books for the library.

At Kolhapur, books costing Rs.250 on an average were added from 1871 to 1882, maximum amount of Rs.653 was spent in 1876, bringing the stock of books from 875 in 1871 to 2430 in 1881-82. At other district towns, due to limited funds, poor amounts were spent on purchase of books and few books were added by way of purchase. Even one new book, per member, per year was not added to many of these libraries. At taluka

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The collections of these libraries were strengthened by way of donations from various individuals, editors of newspapers and magazines. Books and manuscripts in Sanskrit (311 bundles) were donated by the people of Bombay to the BBRAS in memory of Dr. Bhau Daji[181], one of the Vice-Presidents of the BBRAS. Donations from the Government of Bombay included books like the Selections from Government Records, Annual reports of the Government Records, Annual reports of the Government Departments, Acts of the Government and in 1880's the volumes of the Bombay Gazetteer. But these books were not a good material for popular reading.

In this way the book collections were strengthened gradually as follows. Catalogues of books possessed by some libraries were printed for use of the readers, and were brought uptodate from time to time. Additions of books made each year were printed by the BBRAS from 1864 and by the SMI

Library	Year	Number of volumes	Catalogue published	Books issued.
BBRAS	1845	7684 entries	Yes[182]	
	1856/57 to 1865/66	3284 works in 5777 volumes purchased		
	1862	23000	Yes[183]	
	1873	32000	Yes[184]	
	1885	621 new books (730 volumes) purchased 141 books (183 volumes) donated.		

Library	Year	Number of volumes	Catalogue published	Books issued
BMGL	Jan 1845 to Dec. 1864	2565 entries)))	Yes[185]	
	Jan 1865 to Dec. 1868	1973 entries)) 3000 books	Yes[186]	
upto	Dec. 1882	5937 entries	Yes[187]	
Petit Institute Library	1859	1097		
	1862			1887 (224 members)
	1876	3000	Yes[188]	
	1891	5000	Yes[189,190]	
	1894			9000
BMI	1866-67			11152
	1881-82	9498 volumes 3051 Patents		18607
Khoja General Reading Room & Library	1875	550	Yes[191]	

From these catalogues and other documents regarding purchase and acquisition of reading materials, we can gather information about the changing character of the collection - by language, subjects, place of purchase etc.

In the early stage of development of these libraries, books, newspapers and magazines mostly in the English language were purchased and majority of these publications were acquired directly from England. By 1880's , it is noticed that the funds

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allocated for purchase of books and magazines from England were reduced and books were purchased from booksellers at Bombay and at other towns due to growth of books trade in India, the high cost of acquiring reading materials direct from England and publication of books and newspapers in India in English.

At the BBRAS, books and magazines were purchased from M/s Longman and Co. London and an amount of £ 200 was remitted annually to England for this purpose since 1811. As the services of M/s Longman and Co. were found unsatisfactory books and magazines were purchased from M/s Richardson and Co. London from 1841. In 1845 this work was again entrusted to M/S Longman and Co. with reduction in the amount remitted to 150 pounds[192] on the ground that the booksellers were selected by Sir Mackintosh, the first President of the Society. However, from 1st Jan 1856, the agency of M/S Longman Brown and Co. and Mr. J.M.Richardson was dispensed with and books were purchased locally in Bombay from Messrs Smith,Taylor and Co., Agents for Smith, Elder and Co. at London[193] due to heavy amount of postage and other charges necessary to be paid for import of books and magazines.

At Nasik, European Book Fund was formed by European members for which English books from England were purchased. In 1889, books worth Rs, 138 were purchased[194]. Though the purchases from England were reduced, majority of the books purchased by these libraries were in English.

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But the needs of all categories of Indian readers could not be satisfied by English books. Indians had majority in most of the libraries and required materials in the vernacular languages. Books, newspapers and magazines in the vernacular languages were also produced during this period. Therefore reading materials published in Indian languages were purchased by these libraries on an increasing scale. If the library is to be frequented by all the people, the library must select reading materials to cater to the needs of all the people. This factor has been taken into consideration.

For instance at the BBRAS, on the recommendation of Rev. Murray Mitchell, standard books in the Marathi language were purchased in 1850[195]. Further books on oriental literature were purchased from the donation received from Cowasjee Jehangeer Readymoney.

At the BMGL, the number of entries in the library catalogues for books in the vernacular languages was 400 in 1868 and 664 in 1882. At the Kolhapur Native Library, the number of English books increased by about 2.5 times from 649 in 1871 to 1521 in 1881-82 whereas the number of Marathi books increased by about 6 times from 141 in 1871 to 812 in 1881-82.

From the above figures, it appears that the additions of books in vernacular languages were more in libraries at district towns than at Bombay. English knowing people were more in Bombay than at district towns and hence this difference.

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Out of the books in vernacular languages, Gujarati books were more in Bombay Libraries while at district towns, Marathi books were increasing. For example out of the 664 vernacular books possessed by the BNGL in 1883, 327 were Gujarati, 216 Marathi and 131 in other languages. The Khoja General Reading Room and Library possessed 150 Gujarati and 400 English books in 1875. Whereas at Kolhapur, 812 out of 2430 books were Marathi in 1881-82. Marathi knowing members were more in libraries at district and other towns whereas Gujarati knowing members were more in libraries at Bombay. Parsees speak Gujarati language and were enrolled as members of these libraries on an increasing scale and hence this difference.

Slow increase of vernacular books is due to less production of books in the vernacular languages and the nature of books published. Majority of the published books were useful for students. Readable and recreative type books were produced on a small scale.

Subjectwise books

The readers in a public library require materials on subjects like Literature, Fiction, Travels, Biography, History etc. and as such attempts were made to satisfy these needs. Percentage of recreative type material was maximum in most of these libraries. For example out of the 621 new books purchased by the BBRAS in 1885, 153 related to Novels, Romances, Tales

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and 45 related to English poetry and drama while the SMI library purchased 175 books of Novels, Romances and Tales out of 500 purchased in 1877-78. At the SMI library, out of the 3078 total stock, in 1877-78, 2107 related to Novels, Romances, Tales and 1425 related to other forms of literature.

Literary material was followed by books on Biographies, Voyages and Travels, History, Science and Technology.

The likings of readers in a public library are represented in these collections. All readers like to read recreative type material most. The collection of the BBRAS was strong in most of the subjects with a good collection of oriental literature, transactions of societies, Government reports and manuscripts. The SMI library had collected 2669 patents in 1876-77 and good collection of books on Architecture, Railway engineering mechanics. Other libraries concentrated on acquiring the collection as per needs of the readers instead of building a specialised collection in one or more branches of knowledge. For example the Nasik Native General Library possessed 1472 books in English (Literature 499, Novels 718, Poetry 52, Travels 109, Science 94) and 332 Marathi and miscellaneous books[196] in 1882.

The Use of Library

From the statistics maintained[197] by some of the libraries, regarding issue of books and periodicals to readers, it seems that the number of books and periodicals issued was constantly on increase.

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There was high percentage of issue of books and periodicals at the SMI and BBRAS libraries. At the library of the BBRAS, the issue of books and periodicals was as follows

Year	New books including periodicals	Old Books	Total	Resident Members
1884	17113	8658	25772	
1885	17832	7361	25193	159

At the SMI Library, 12455 books, 7150 periodicals and 1239 newspapers were issued in 1869-70. This increased to 14519 books, 5289 periodicals and 4250 newspapers in 1876-77 i.e. 73 volumes per member per annum were issued. Number of books issued rose to 18607, periodicals 4780 and newspapers 3874 in 1881-82 i.e. about 90 volumes per annum per member.

At the BNGL, 250 to 300 books per month were issued in 1867. Due to purchase of 3000 new books from England, the issue of books increased to 700 to 750 per month in 1868 and rose to 900 to 950 per month in 1870. Later on it remained to 900 per month in 1877 and 1879.

At the Kolhapur Native Library, due to purchase of fresh books costing Rs.600/- in 1876, 1185 books were issued in 1876-77 as against 657 during the previous year and 209 books in 1871. As new books were added each year, the issue of books increased to 2700 in 1881-82.

At the BBRAS, issue of fresh books and periodicals was more than of old books and periodicals and new books were read most in the first year of its receipt.

These facts indicate that the increase in the issue of books is the result of the copious addition of various useful books made. The Secretary of the Kolhapur Native Library, Shri M.P.Modak therefore remarks that the "usefulness of the library increases in the proportion of additions made to the book department".[198] It is also an established fact that new books are read most in the first year of its receipt in the library.

The high rate of issue of books and periodicals at the BBRAS may be ascribed also to the following factors. The rules of the library prescribed issue of 15 volumes at a time for three months for members and five volumes for one month to a subscriber (Rule 38).[199] Secondly the educational background, scholarly attitude and comperatively more leisure time available to the members due to their sound financial position.

All new books were issued for a period of 7 to 14 days (7 days for Duodecimo or Octavo and 14 days for Quarto) during the first year of its receipt in the library (Rule 45).[200] Size of the book or the quantum of reading material has been taken into consideration while prescribing this rule.

One thing about reading habit can be noticed. The books related to Fiction, Drama etc. were mostly in demand and were

read maximum in all these libraries. Books on subjects like Biography, History, Travel, Voyages etc were in the next priority. Periodicals and magazines were demanded and issued to on an increasing scale in most of these libraries. From the analysis of the statistics maintained by the BNGL regarding the books issued by subject of the books and religion of the members for the year 1869[201], it will appear that there was a great desire among all classes of the readers for reading novels, the Europeans and Indo-Britons excelling all other classes in the matter (94 Parsees - 301 volumes, 102 Hindus - 202 Vols., 42 Christians - 368 vols). Next to it comes the subject of history and Geography and literature wherein the Parsees taste appears to excel that of the Hindus while on the other hand the Hindus seem to outbid the Parsees in their attachment to Politics, Law and Jurisprudence, Sanskrit and Christian sacred literature. The Parsees again show a greater desire than the Hindus for works on Science and Arts, Natural History, Poetry, Voyages and Travels, Biography and Miscellaneous reading. The Mahomedans class figures very poorly in statistics. There was only one member of this community on the list of the BNGL.

Management of libraries

During this period, it may be observed that the management of the libraries came in the hands of Indians from Europeans and the European influence in the management of libraries was diminishing. Indians were elected on the

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Committee of Management, and the offices of Secretary, Vice-President, the President, were held by Indians.

For example, the Bombay Native General Library, though established principally for the Indians was dominated by the Europeans as they had majority in the Committee of Management upto 1852. During this period, this European character of the library was changed. By a resolution passed in 1861[202] the reservationof 50% seats each for Europeans and Indians in the Committee of Management was removed and 6 members of the Committee of Management were to be elected from among all the 1st and 2nd class members of the library with the result that the Committee of Management elected in 1862 consisted of 5 Indians and one European with Nowrosjee Furdoonji as President. Thereafter very few Europeans were elected on the Committee of Management. Indians were also elected to the posts of President, Secretary, Treasurer.

At the SMI, the office of the President was held by someone from the Engineering profession or an officer from Marine Services, or Dockyard or Mint, all Europeans upto 1910. Khan Bahadur M.C.Mirza, Engineer was the first Indian to hold this office in 1910-11. There was no reservation of seats for Europeans in the Committee of Management and Indians were elected on the Committee of Management sometimes forming majority. Mr. Harichand Sadashivji, Civil Engineer worked continuously for 23 years as Hon. Secretary from 1862 to 1884.

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At the BBRAS, Indians were elected on the Committee of Management. The first Indian to be a member of the Managing Committee was Mr. Bhau Dajee[214] who was elected to the managing committee in 1858. He thereafter was elected as Hon. Member of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland. He was elected Vice President of the BBRAS on 20th November, 1864. The Hon'ble Rao Saheb V.N.Mandlik[203] was appointed Vice President of the Society in 1874 and as Joint Honorary Secretary between 1877 - 1881. In 1882, the Hon'ble Mr. Javerilal Umashankar Yajnik[204] joined the Society as member. He was Secretary of the Society from 1897 to 1901. The Hon'ble Mr. Justice K.T.Telang[205] joined the Society in 1874 and became President of the Society in 1893. He broke the tradition and paved the way to other Indians to aspire to that honour.

At the other libraries in Bombay, Indians managed the affairs of the libfaries. The Parsees were supreme at the Petit Institute Library.

At the Kolhapur Native Library, the management of the library came fully in the hands of Indians in 1867. Various officials of the Kolhapur State were associated with the working of the library besides educationists in the Rajaram High School.

At other native states, the libfaries were managed by Indians with the support of the state officials. Poona Native General Library was completely managed by Indians mostly Brahmins. The President of the libraries at Nasik and Sawantwadi were Europeans. At other district towns, Indians had majority

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in the Committee of Management and managed the affairs of these libraries. Persons belonging to legal profession were associated with the management of various libraries.

Thus the Indianisation of these libraries was reflected in the management of these libraries.

As some libraries constructed buildings and the property of the library was vested in books, promissory notes and furniture, the libraries were registered as Public Trust and Trustees were appointed as per Trust deeds of the libraries. For example as per the trust deed[206] of the BAGL, two trustees, Cursetjee Nusserwanjee Cama[207] and Vinayakrao Jagannath Shankarshet[208] were appointed in 1862. Vinayakrao Jagannath worked as Trustee for 11 years upto his death in 1874. He was followed by Mangaldas Nathubhoy.

Another noteworthy change in the management of libraries was that of the struggle of the Third class members and subscribers to have a right to vote at the annual general meeting and to contest the election of the Committee of Management for its membership. As the number of members of the third class and subscribers increased, they struggled to reduce the gap between the privileges of higher class members and lower class members.

At the BBRAS, as the Indians were admitted as Resident Members on an increasing scale, very few Indians sought admission to the BBRAS as subscribers who had no right to vote and to participate in the Committee of Management. Out of the

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37 subscribers there were only 2 Indian subscribers on Roll in 1877. At the Petit Institute Library, the third class members had the right to vote at the annual meeting but not the right to be a member of the Committee of Management. At Kolhapur, the right to vote to all subscribers especially to the Fourth class subscribers knowing only the Marathi language was recognised in 1884 when the Rules of the library were amended.

We also find a sense of awareness among the lowdr class members as regards their privileges. They fought tooth and nail while revising the Rates of subscription. For example, at the Petit Institute, special meetings and requisition meetings were constantly held to consider the question of revision of rates of subscription. The Second and the Third class members opposed the proposals regarding increase in the Rates of subscription of second and third class members but were successful in raising the rates of subscription of the First Class members.

An awareness is also discernible regarding the basic minimum privileges every member and subscriber should have. At Kolhapur, privileges of the First Class members were gradually reduced firstly by discontinuing the practice of opening the fresh newspapers first at the residence of the subscribers living in camp area, secondly by keeping all the fresh newspapers whole the day in the Reading Room and issuing them at Mid-day and night and later on discontinuing this practice of sending newspapers at the residence of the First Class subscribers.

In this way domination of higher class members and the preferential treatment given to the First Class members was challenged. Demands and aspirations of the members have been reflected in the process of amendment of the Rules of the library and changes were made to suit the changing times.

Persons who led the Library Movement

Various persons, the founders, the office bearers, the members of the Committee of Management and the members themselves have made contributions for the development of native libraries in Western Maharashtra. But mention must be made of a few persons who had rendered valuable services and contributed a major share for the progress of these libraries. Many libraries had awarded Honorary Life membership and presents to such personalities in recognition of their outstanding services to the libraries.

At the BNGL, Honorary Secretary Ardesir Framjee Moos[209] creatively worked for the library from 1857 to 1880, used various measures to make the financial position sound by collecting donations to the tune of Rs.30,000 during this period and enrolling life members, gained cooperation from all members, the Committee of Management and wealthy people of Bombay for the prosperity of the library.

This progress was made under the able leadership of the Presidents Mr. Nowrosjee Furdoonjee, Dr. Bhau Daji, Narayan

Dinanathjee (1864-65, 1868-1872), Sir Vishwanath Narayan Mandlik (1873-1879), Treasurer Bhairavnath Mangesh and members of the Committee of Management like Prof. Dadabhai Naoroji (1859, 1875), Narayan Dinanathji, Hormusji Dadabhoy (Pleader), Bal Mangesh Nagle, K.T. Telang, Vinayak Vasudevji, J.U. Yajnik, all of whom had achieved eminence in their field, at that time in Bombay.

Nowrosjee Furdoonjee [illegible] was associated with this library since 1847. He assisted the Secretary in compilation of the catalogue of books (1847), worked on the Committee of Management since 1853, while he was in chair in 1861, the resolution removing the reservation of seats for Europeans in the Committee of Management was passed, while in England, along with Prof. Dadabhai Naoroji, he selected books for the library, obtained a donation of oriental books costing Pound 200 from the Secretary of State for India and held the office of the Chairman of the Committee of Management in 1860, 1863 and 1864.

Bhaireonath Mangesh worked as Honorary Treasurer for a continuous period of 16 years from 1858 to 1873 and later as a member of the Committee of Management till his death in 1877 during which time the library was based on sound financial footing.

Narayan Dinanathjee was the oldest member of the library, worked in the Committee of Management, as Chairman in 1859, 1862, 1866, 1967 and many times presided over the Annual General Meetings. He was a zealous supporter of the library.

In recognition of the services rendered to the BNGL the Honorary Secretary Mr. Ardesir Framjee Moos, Mr. Nowrosjee Furdoonjee, Prof. Dadabhai Naoroji[210] and treasurer Mr. Bhairavnath Mangesh[211], were awarded Honorary Life membership of the Institution in 1867 and 1872 respectively.

At the SMI Library, Mr. Harichand Sadashivji, Civil Engineer, worked continuously for 23 years as Honorary Secretary from 1862 to August 1884. One gold watch and chain (Cost Rs. 478-6-2) was given to him in 1869-70[212]. He was elected Honorary Life Member of this institute in 1884-85[213]. The Institute achieved progress firstly by having an independent building through the assistance from David Sassoon, the Government of Bombay and well-wishers of David Sassoon. Similarly various British officers, European travellers and Indians contributed to the progress of the library by becoming members and Life members. The Parsees by becoming life members on an increasing scale, had contributed most to the Reserve Fund of the Institute.

At the BBRAS, Indian residents of Bombay proved their desire and competence in the pursuit of knowledge by reading papers on various topics at the meetin s of the BBRAS which were published in its Journal. Dr. Bhau Dajee, Sir V.N. Mandlik, K.T. Telang, Prof. R.D. Bhandarkar, Justice M.G. Ranade and a number of Parsees of Bombay made significant contributions to the journal of the BBRAS. On the contrary, the literary activity among the Europeans was on decrease.

Indians like Jagannath Shankershet, Premchand Raichand, Cowasjee Jehangeer Readymoney, gave sumptuous donations to the Institute and its library. All these activities proved the the competence and desire of the Indians to achieve the high aims laid down by the founders of the society like Sir James Mackintosh.

Therefore Sir Bartle Frere[214], Governor of Bombay and Patron of the BBRAS, member of the BBRAS from 1830 and who took interest in getting the Indians admitted to the society, remarked about the progress made by the BBRAS as follows

> "I may remark, however, that the Society now really is Asiatic, which it hardly was before, but which I trust it will ever continue to be".

At the Petit Institute, the Petit family by giving donations from time to time made the financial position of the library sound. Other eminent persons in Bombay like Framji Nasserwanji Patel[216], Sir Dinsha Manakji Petit[217] rendered valuable services to the library.

The Poona Native General Library made splendid progress through the efforts of eminent Indians mostly educated Brahmins in Poona. Prof. Daji Nilkanth Nagarkar[218], Professor in the Engineering College, Rao Bahadur Keropant Chhatre[219], Professor in the Poona College, Shri Krishnashastri Chiplonkar[220] Principal, Poona Training College, Rao Saheb M.M.Kunte[221] Headmaster, Poona High School and later Principal, Gujrath College, Ahmedabad and member of the Poona City Municipality

worked on the Committee of Management and assisted the library from 1877-1888.

Shri Krishnaji Raghunath Kelkar,[222] teacher in the Poona High School worked as Secretary of the library continuously for a period of 20 years excepting 2/3 years and contributed to the progress of the library. During this period, the library building was constructed. He was awarded Hon. membership in 1896 when he was transferred to Thana.

Justice Mahadeo Govind Ranade[223], Liberal leader of Maharashtra and Author, firstly attended the meeting of the subscribers held on 17-12-1871, worked on the Committee of Management, presided over various annual meetings, and finally worked as President of the Library from 1891-1901. He donated Rs.1000/- to the library from the interest of which, books on Economics and History are purchased every year.

Lokahitavadi, one of the founders and the Secretary of the library in the earlier period, was associated with the working of the library all his life till his death in 1892. The new building of the library was inaugurated in 1889 in his chairmanship.

The Kolhapur Native Library had an independent building costing more than Rs.20000/- in 1881 which was an important achievement of the library. It is a remarkable example of whole-hearted financial support given by a Native State to a public library in Western Maharashtra. The name of the

Maharaja of Baroda has been taken for the development of public libraries in Baroda State. But 30 to 40 years prior to his contributions, the Kolhapur State had taken lead in promoting the cause of public libraries in India.

Credit of this achievement goes to the englightened ruler of Kolhapur State the 'Karvir S„rkar'[224], Shrimant-Jayasingrao Abasaheb Ghatge,[225] Chief of Kagal State, Regent and President of the Library, State Karbhari Rao Saheb Barve, the Political Agents Col Schneider and Col. Par for giving all support to this cause, besides the members of the Managing Committee who pursued this activity vigorously for 4 years. Shri J.A.Unwala[226], G.K.Bhatawadekar[227], K.B.Gokhale[228] worked as Secretary from 1867 to 1870.

Shri Balaji Prabhakar Modak[229], Professor in the English School and Secretary of the library from 1871 to 1877, made efforts for the progress of the library. He compiled the detailed annual reports about the working of the library with statistics. The Report of the library for the year 1870 is of 40 full scap pages handwritten. He encouraged students and teachers in the English School for making use of the library, added fresh books in the library each year, started extension lecture series, gave lectures on various topics, made successful efforts to increase the income of the library by raising the rates of subscription of the Maharaja of Kolhapur and other minor chiefs. He also made a comparative study of the progress made by libraries at Poona, Satara and Kolhapur in 1872 and further suggested that

libraries should be established at various towns in the State with a central Library to control these libraries.

Thus Indians made constant efforts for the progress of native libraries in Western Maharashtra.

Conclusion

It is quite obvious from the above discussion that the libraries were becoming more Native in their character, and prime consideration was given to the requirements of the Indians while planning the development of these libraries.

Indians were admitted on an increasing scale in libraries where Europeans had the sole control by 1855's. Reading materials in the vernacular languages and published in India were purchased on an increasing scale. Cheaper rate of subscription was prescribed for the low income group among Indians. The organisation and management of libraries came in the hands of Indians. The support to these libraries by the Government of Bombay decreased but the support from Local self-Government institutions, the Native States and from Indians increased. All these events were a step towards making the libraries 'Native'.

The General Character

As the restrictions on admission to Indians was removed by the BBRAS, at other libraries, both Indians and

Europeans were admitted without distrinction of caste,creed or religion. Cheaper rate of subscription was prescribed for low income group, privileges of first class members were restricted (to open fresh newspapers home and to send the fresh newspapers home first).

Similarly the right to vote at the general meeting was given to third class members in some libraries. The distinction between members and subscribers at the BBRAS was dissolved due to admission of Indians on an increasing scale as members. Provisions were also made to admit the students in these libraries at cheaper rate. In some libraries Life Members had the privilege to introduce the students to the use of the library.

All these events are a step towards making the advantages of the library available to more number of people i.e. towards the General or Public character of the library.

Limitations, drawbacks

Subscription for membership was itself a barrier for taking the benefit of these institutions. Reading materials in the English language was also a barrier towards attracting more people to these libraries. Illiteracy and backwardness in the field of education was also a barrier for opening the doors of libraries to all the people. Purchase of few books each year and limited sources of income was a hard blow to the spread of library movement.

The Problems

With all these achievements and contributions, it needs consideration why the library movement spread at a rather slow rate. Why did many of the libraries remain merely as Reading Rooms. Why did not the number of members increase in proportion to the increase in the number of educated persons and why were the people somewhat reluctant to pay for reading. All these questions need careful study and analysis.

Attempt has therefore been made to answer some of the questions in order to find solution and to improve the situation.

Apathy of the Local People

There were many reasons why Indian enthusiasm in this field of activity was not forthcoming. Firstly, knowledge of English of a level sufficiently advanced to profit from English literature was confined to comparatively few individuals. The demand for English books could therefore come only from a limited circle of Indians.

On the other hand, very few books in Indian languages were published. For example number of books published in Marathi was as follows.[230]

Period	No. of Books published
1818 - 1857	147 Books
1857 - 1864	550 Books

Out of these, 431 were prose and 230 were verse. About 50% of the prose publications were school books and the remaining were either compilations or translations from Sanskrit and English. Few original books useful for popular reading were published.

In fact the class of educated persons and book lovers at this time was largely drawn from the Brahmin community. They entertained a strong prejudice against the printing press on religious grounds. For instance, use of animal fat for preparing printing ink was believed to be irreligious. People also believed that much of the religious and Vedic literature was to be preserved in oral form only and that too, by high caste Hindus. A few examples in this respect can be given.

Govind Narayan Madgaonkar[231] refers to this in his book 'Mumbaiechen Varnanna' in the following words

> "Some of the superstitious and orthodox Brahmins among us used to be afraid of touching a printed paper. And even today (i.e. in the year 1863) we come across many persons in Bombay and outside who do not touch printed paper nor read a printed book".

Even prominent individuals who had had the benefit of education under the new system and were outstanding members of the new intelligentia could not succeed in ridding their minds completely of prejudice of this nature. A remarkable instance of this kind is mentioned in the Marathi autobiography of

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R.B. Dadoba Pandurang, the well known Marathi grammarian. When he showed his translation of Laghu Kaumudi from Sanskrit into Marathi to Balshastri Jambhekar, who was then the Secretary of the Board of Education and a Professor at the Elphinstone Institution, the latter expressed the opinion that since the Sutras from Panini's Ashtadhyayi appearing in that work were 'Vedokta' an attempt to defile them by printing would incur popular displeasure.[232] Professor Balshastri Jambhekar edited a monthly periodical 'Digdarshan'. In an article describing Lithography appearing in this periodical in 1840, it is stated that while animal fat is normally a constituent used in preparing printing ink, the ink used for printing the 'Digdarshan' contained ghee instead of fat.[233] Mr. Navalkar mentions in his Marathi biography of the late Vishwanath Narayan Mandlik, a prominent Maharashtrian Jurist, that the latter did not touch a printed book after his daily bath[234].

No wonder that under such conditions it took a long time for an Indian to cultivate the habit of book collection. The prejudice against the printed book was strong upto the end of the 19th century is very well illustrated by an advertisement appearing in 'Karamanook' (29th April 1893) edited by Hari Narayan Apte[235]. This advertisement[236] mentions that the book 'Gurucharitra' has been specially printed on Indian paper with ink prepared in pure ghee instead of in fat in order to read for religious purposes (in Sovale, Silk Dhottee or Saree). Only ten copies are in stock and are offered at Rs.One and Annas Twelve only (Original cost Rs.8/-) if purchased upto 5th May 1893.

Similarly Govind Bebaji Joshi[237], while on tour of Maharashtra tried to establish a library at Mahim in 1867, but people showed great opposition on the ground that in the library, religious books will be kept and these will be handled by anybody.

It is not surprising that with such strong prejudice against printed books deeply ingrained in the minds of the proportionately small educated class, it took a comparatively long time for the Indians to cultivate the habit of book collection and to realise the value of libraries.

Problem for investigation

While inaugurating the new building of the Poona Native General Library in 1889, Lord Reay, Governor of Bombay, had commented on the membership of the Poona Native General Library as follows

> "In 1850, there were 90 subscribers and we have not yet succeeded in gaining more than 140 and I am told that even this number may not be permanently retained... But how is that when in 1850 there were 300 pupils in English Teaching Schools, and now there are 2500, that the number of the subscribers remains nearly stationary, and that in a city like Poona, there should be 140 subscribers to your library. I shall always keep an eye on the statistics of the Poona Library, because these statistics will be test of the result of our educational system".[238]

Lord Reay had raised a pertinent question in this respect. According to him the number of members of these libraries should

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increase due to spread of education and in proportion to the number of pupils educated. He expects such increase as "the result of educational system". It is a matter for the educationists to investigate further. Whether the educational system was faulty ? Why did not the educated pupils pursue further education by reading books etc. and why did not they use the public libraries for their life time ? These are some of the questions which need investigation.

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NOTES

1. Woods, Sir Charles (1800-1885). First Viscount Halifax. Chancellor of the Exchequer U.K. (1846). Secretary of State for India, 1859-1866. Member of the House of Lords. 1866-

2. The Woods Despatch. The Woods Despatch (1854) mentioned the objectives of the education to be the diffusion of the improved arts, science, philosophy and literature of Europe, in short of European knowledge.

   The new schemes proposed by this despatch were 1) Creation of a Department of Public Instruction in each of the four provinces under the Director of Public Instruction assisted by inspecting officers. 2) Universities should be established at Calcutta and Bombay modelled on the London University, 3) Establishment of a network of graded schools all over India, 4) Grant-in-aid to private efforts, 5) Training of teachers. Despatch hoped that the spread of education would provide services of intelligent and trustworthy persons in every department of Government.

3. Erskine, Claudius James. First Director of ducation, Bombay Presidency, 1855-56. Justice of the Peace (1853)

4. Howard, E. I. M.A., Director of Education, Bombay Presidency 1856-65. Law books owned by him were kept in the Bombay Native General Library for benefit of law students.

45. Grant, Sir Alexander (1826-1884). Professor of History and Political Economy, Elphinstone Institution, Bombay 1860. Principal of the College, 1862- Dean of the Faculty of Arts in Bombay University, Vice Chancellor, Bombay University (1863). Director of Public Instruction, Bombay Presidency 1865-68. He infused new life into the Department of Education extending and liberalising the methods of supervision and education. Principal of Edinburgh University, 1868-1884.

6. Peile, J.B. Director of Education, Bombay Presidency 1869-72.

7. Nurullah, Syed and Naik,J.P. History of Education in India. 1943. pp 160. 162-70.

8. Bombay Government. A review of Education in Bombay state 1855-1955. 1958. p.10.

9. Ibid. p.14.

10. Trevelyan,C.E. On the Educationof the People of India, 1838. pp. 70-71.

11. Jambhekar, Balshastri Digdarshan. May 1840. p.21.

12. Vora, Rajendra M. Liberal thought in Maharashtra from 1850 to 1920. Ph.D.Thesis. Poona University,1974. p.46.

13. In 1855, when the Department of Education was created, Erskine divided the State in four divisions - Presidency Division (with Bombay as Head-quarters), Deccan Division (with Poona as Head-quarters), Gujarati Division (with Ahmedabad as Head-quarters), and Sind. Howard kept the number of divisions unchanged. But he adopted language as the basis for the formation of a division and created a Northern Division for Gujarati Area, A central Division for the Marathi area, and a Southern Division for the Kannada area. As the Marathi Division became very big in size, it was broken up into two in 1870-71 and a fifth North-east Division was created for the Districts of Khandesh, Nasik and Ahmednagar (with certain Indian States). In 1887-88, the number of divisions was again reduced to four and each division of the Education Department was made equivalent to a revenue division - an arrangement which continued to be in force till 1920-21.

14. Peat, Dr. John. Assistant Surgeon, Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy Hospital, Professor of Anatomy, Grant Medical College and Superintendent of Vaccinations at the Presidency (25 February 1852-). Appointed Educational Inspector of Presidency Division (1856).

15. RDPI 1856-57. pp. 286-287. Para 151.

16. Dnyanaprakash. 7 July 1856. p.329. 27 April 1857 pp 201-03. 21 and 28 June 1858. (Reports of the Sholapur General Library) 28 Feb 1859. Purevani pp.2-3 (Report of the Nasik Native Library for the year 1858).

17. PD 1868 Vol.2. p.249.

18. RDPI. 1867-68. Appendix A1, A3.

19. PD 1868, Vol.2.p.249.

20. Ibid. pp.249-252.

21. Fund for Encouragement of Literature was created in 1852. On an average an amount of Rs.10000 was allocated for this purpose each year. But it did not cross Rs.15000 at a time during this period. Books, Newspapers,Magazines in English and in the Vernacular languages published in the Bombay Presidency (copies ranging from 10 to 300) were purchased from this Fund by the DPI on application made to this effect. Many publications which received support from this fund were in the vernacular languages. Some publications were in English mostly useful for school pupils.

22. An amount of Rs.2000 was allocated to the DPI for purchase of standard and useful works which were not supported from the Fund for Encouragement of Literature such as Dictionaries etc. Such books were purchased and distributed to the educational institutions like Colleges, High Schools or English Schools on application made by these institutions. By this GR, native libraries were included in this scheme for distribution of such books. (It is observed that few libraries received aid from this amount. For example in 1871 no book was presented to any native library from this amount).

23. Resolution No.252. Education Department, dated 6 May 1858 (In ED 1869 Vol.2. p.261).

24. RDPI 1868-69. p.54. para 62.

25. Ibid. p.18.

26. Ibid. p.54.

27. RDPI 1880-81. p.88.

28. RDPI 1857-58. pp.419-20. Para 35.

29. PD 1858.Vol 181. Comp.2343. pp.111-117.

30. PD 1857. Vol.XXV. pp.19-29.

31. PD 1857. Vol.XXV. p.29.

32. RDPI 1858-59. p.167. Para 30.

33. RDPI 1862-63. pp. 60-61. Para 37.

34. Joshi, M.R. Dhondo Shamrao Garud Library, Dhule, 100 Varshanche Trotak vrittanta. Sahitya Sahakara, April 1956.p.2.

35. RDPI. 1871-72. Appendix A1. pp.104-06. Appendix A3 pp.283-284. Appendix A4. pp.391-392.

36. RDPI 1870-71. Appendix A1. pp.68-69.

37. Ibid. Appendix A4. pp.284-285.

38. RDPI 1868-69. Appendix A1 pp.49-52.

39. RDPI 1870-71. pp. 68-69.

40. RDPI 1869-70. Appendix A1. p.74.

41. RDPI 1871-72. Appendix A1. p.106.

42. RDPI 1868-69. pp.49-52.

43. Ibid. pp.152-153.

44. RDPI 1871-72. Appendix A4, p.393.

45. RDPI 1870-71. Appendix A3, p.212.

46. Poona NGL was destroyed in fire in 1879 and hence the collection is small.

47. Letter dated 13th July 1866 from the Secretary of the Kolhapur Native Library to the Chief of Kolhapur State. Copy of Modi script in Kolhapur Native Library. Baranshi (Outward Register). 6 [June] 1853 to 1 [Jan.] 1872. Copy in Devanagari Script. In Rege, Vasudev Raghunath, Kolhapur Native Library ya Sansthechs Sagra Itihasa (San 1853 te San 1916-17 salacha report, Purva Vrittanta) Kolhapur, Author 1917. p.3.

48. Kolhapur Native Library. Report for the year 1868.

49. Ibid.

50. Kolhapur Native Library. Report for the year 1871.

51. Kolhapur Native Library. Report for the year 1881-82.

52. Name changed as the Sassoon Mechanics Institute in 1867 and later on renamed as David Sassoon Reading Room and Library in 1938 which continues today.

53. TICD. 1851. p.56.

54. Ibid.

55. Ibid. pp.56-57. Rules of Library (12 Rules).

56. SMI. Annual Report 1866-67.

57. SMI. Annual Report 1873-74. Lectures.

58. SMI. Annual Report 1866-67.

59. SMI. Annual Report 1881-82.

60. The name of the Library has undergone changes - (1) Fort Reading Room and Library in 1867, (2) The Jamsetjee Nasserwanjee Petit Fort Reading Room and Library in 1891, and (3) The Jamsetjee Nasserwanjee Petit Institute in 1898. It is still called by the JN Petit Institute.

61. Tata, Jamshetji Nassarvanji (1839-1904). Parsi Industrialist. Established Cotton Mills in Bombay.

62. The J.N.Petit Institute, Centenary Souvenir (1856-1956).

63. Proceedings of the First general meeting of the Fort Improvement Library held on 4th December 1857. In F.I.L.Managing Committee. Minute Book. 1856-1865.

64. Fraser, Rev. A. Gordon. D.D.Principal, Central School of the Elphinstone Institution.

65. Patel, Framji Nasarvanji (1804-1892). Parsi. Merchant. Supporter of Parsi reform activities. Member, Bombay Legislative Council, 1866-1869.

66. Nowrosji Furdunji (1817-1885). Parsi. Secretary, Bombay Association, 1855-1871. Active in Municipal Affairs. Connected with the Bombay Native General Library.

67. No records are available about the working of the library from 18th July 1853 to 31 Dec. 1856.

68. BNGL (1845-79). p.41. Speech of Mr.Nowrosjee Furdoonjee on 28th February 1857 at the 12th Annual General Meeting.

69. Ibid. p.48. Treasurer's Account. 1 January to 31 December 1857.

70. Ibid. p.49. Abstract of monthly income and expenditure Feb.1858.

71. Ibid. p.102. Report for the year 1864.

72. Ibid. Collected from the annual reports of the Library for the years 1857-1879.

73. Ibid. p.205. Statement of Income and Expenditure for 1879 and Balance Sheet for the period ending 1879.

74. BBRAS. Annual Report. 1885. (F.C.Mandlik Collection F/749).

75. Joshi, M.R. op.cit. p.3.

76. RDPI. 1871-72. Appendix A3. p.284.

77. GBP XII. Khandesh. p.335.

78. RDPI 1872-73. p.27. (Expenditure from provincial funds on educational buildings).

79. Shrigondekar, Ganesh Harhar, Ed. Pune Nagar Vachan Mandiracha Shambhar Varshancha Itihass 1848-1948. 1949. p. 12.

80. Ibid. p.18.

81. Ibid. (Also ED 1887 Vol.26. Comp. 98 - Submitted estimates of expenditure and plan. Rs.4000 sanctioned for site. GR No.1610 dated 8 Sept.1888 - Comp 453 of 1888 ED 1888 In GD 1912 Vol.92 p.34. List A, Item 38.

82. Ibid.

83. GD 1912. Vol.92 p.34 List A. Item 28 GR No.2178 dated 12 December 1882.

84. ED GR No.1310 and 1901 dated3 Aug 1882 and 1 Nov 1882 Ref. to GR in ED 1891 Vol.42 Comp. 491.

85. Kolhapur Native Library, Report 1870.

86. Ibid. Report 1878-79.

87. Ibid. Report 1881 also in Rege. op.cit.

88. GBP XVII Ahmednagar p.581.

89. GBP XVI Nasik. p.334-335.

90. GBP XIX Satara pp. 414.415.

91. GBP XIX Satara pp.414.415.

92. GBP XX Sholapur p.384,385.

93. GBP XVI Nasik. p.335.

94. GBP X. Ratnagiri and Savantwadi p.459.

95. GD 1881 Vol.83. pp.319, 197-199, 207.

96. BNGL (1845-79). p.102.

97. SMI Annual Report.1866-67.

98. Sassoon, David (1792-1864). Merchant Prince of Bombay. Marble Statue has been preserved at the portals of the David Sassoon Reading Room and Library.

99. SMI. Annual Report. 1870.

100. Petit, Jamsetjee Nesserwanjee. Esq. J.P. (1856-88). Only Son of Nesserwanjee Manockjee Petit. Educated - Elphinstone College. Books written in Gujarati. Translated Vendidad - book of Zend Avesta - The Parsee Scriptures. Translated Gulistan. Assisted the J.N.Petit Institute (a Public Library), The J.N.Petit Girgaum Library, The J.N.Petit Baharkote Improvement Library, the J.N.Petit Colaba Library. The J.N.Petit Ankleshwar Library. (The last two were endowed during his life time).

101. The Jamsetjee Nesserwanjee Petit Institute. Golden Jubilee 1898-1948. Record of half a century of progress of the J.N.Petit Institute, Bombay 1948. p.13.

102. The Jamsetjee Nesserwanjee Petit Institute. Golden Jubilee. 1898-1948. p.21. Rules and Regulations of the Jamsetjee Nesserwanjee Petit Fort Reading Room and Library, Bombay, 1893. 21 p.

103. Ibid. p.19.

104. The J.N.Petit Institute. Centenary Souvenir. 1856-1956. p.5.

105. RDPI 1867-68. Appendix A1. pp.43-44.

106. GBP XX. Sholapur. 1884.p.384.

107. Ibid.p.384.

108. Rege, Vasudeo Raghunath. Kolhapur Native Library ya Sansthecha itihasa 1917.p.3. and Kolhapur Native Library. Report for 1868.

109. GBP XIX Satara p.415.

110. Information collected from GBP.

111. See Table No.

112. TICD 1851. p.56.

113. Fort Improvement Library. Managing Committee Minute Book 1856-65. Proc. First General Meeting 4 Dec 1857.

114. Ibid.

115. BNGL (1845-79) p.141. Report for 1869. Para 14.

116. Kolhapur Native Library. Managing Committee. Proceedings Book. 1879-80 to 1888-89. 5 October 1879. Managing Committee meeting. Minute.

117. Rules of the SMI passed at General Meeting held on 22nd day of July 1874. Rule 3.

118. Ibid. Rule 12.

119. BNGL (1845-79). p.104. Proceedings. 20th Annual General Meeting. 30 April 1866. Resolution 2.

120. GD 1881 Vol.83. p.207. Rules of the Fort Reading Room and Library. Church Gate Street, Bombay. 1877. passed at a General Meeting on 27 February 1877. 14 p.

121. Extracts from the Proceedings of the Society for the year 1851-52.
BBRAS Anniversary Meeting. 29 November 1852. Proceedings.
JBBRAS 4(1852-53) January 1853 issue. pp.475-576.

122. Abstract of the Proceedings of the Society for 1873-74.
Anniversary Meeting. 17 January 1874.p. xlvii.
JBBRAS. Vol.10. 1871-74.

123. Abstract of the Proceedings of the Society for 1873-74.
BBRAS. Anniversary Meeting. 17 January 1874.
JBBRAS Vol.10. 1871-74. p. xlvi.

124. Rules and Regulations of the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society. Passed at a General meeting at the Society held on 7th February 1874. Bombay 1874. (F.C. Mandlik Collection).

125. BBRAS. Anniversary Meeting. 22 December 1877.
JBBRAS Vol.XIII. 1877. Abstract of Society's proceedings.
126. Annual Report for 1877. p.xxv - xxvi.

126. Kolhapur Native Library. Report for the year 1867.

127. Information collected from Annual Reports of Libraries.

128. Shrigondekar, Ganesh Narhar. Ed. op.cit. p.175.

129. GBP Vol.XIII. Part II. Thana pp.661-662.

130. Kolhapur Native Library. Managing Committee. Proceedings Book. 1879-80 to 1888-89. 22 January 1882. General meeting. Resolution 5.

131. Kolhapur Native Library. Report 1869, 1874-75, 1880-81.

132. BNGL (1845-79). pp.61-62.

133. Kolhapur Native Library Report 1879-80.

134. BNGL (1845-79). p.37. Rules and regulations of the NGL passed on 18 July 1853. Rule 4.

135. Rules. Fort Reading Room and Library passed on 27-2-1877.

136. Rules and regulations BBRAS passed on 7 Feb. 1874. Rule 38

137. Ibid. Rule 46

138. Kolhapur Native Library. Report for 1871-72 (The timing of the library was from 8.00 am to 11.30 am and from 4 to 7.30 p.m.)

139. Ibid. report for 1872-73.

140. Rules. Fort Reading Room and Library passed on 27 Feb. 1877.

141. Kolhapur Native Library. Proceedings Book (MC and AGM) 1879/80 to 1898/89. Managing Committee. 18 June 1882 meeting. Minute.

142. Ibid. 25. June 1882. General meeting. minute.

143. KNL
Rules of the Library (Niyama) (62 Rules) passed at the General Meetings held on 12, 20 and 27 Sept. 1884. Revised in 1886.

144. Ibid. Rule 53.

145. Kolhapur Native Library. Report 1875.

146. RDPI 1870-71. Appendix A4 p.285.

147. TICD 1951. pp. 56-57. Rule 3.

148. Rules of the SMI passed at General Meeting held on 22nd day of July 1874. Rule 8.

149. BNGL (1845-79). p.57. Proceedings of the 14th Annual General Meeting of the members of the NGL held on 8th Feb. 1860. Resolution 4.

150. Rules and regulations. BBRAS. Passed on 7 Feb. 1874.

151. Rules of the Fort Reading Room and Library passed on 27 Feb 1877.

152. SMI Annual report, 1875-76.

153. BNGL (1845-79) pp. 54-55 (Report for 1858).

154. Ibid. p.93 (Report for the year ending 31 Dec 1864, Para 4).

155. Ibid. p.114. (Report for 1865, Para 10,11).

156. Ibid. p.335. (Report for 1868. Para 8,9)

157. Ibid. p.205 (Statement of Income and Expenditure for 1879 and Balance sheet etc.).

158. SMI Annual report. 1869-70.

159. SMI Annual report. 1873-74.

160. SMI Annual report 1884-85, p.5.

161. SMI Annual report 1877-78.

162. Fort Improvement Library. Proc. First Annual General meeting. 4 Dec 1857.

163. The J.N.Petit Institute. Centenary Souvenir (1856-1956). pp.5-6.

164. JBBRAS VIII. 1863-64, 1864-65. Abstract of Society's Proceedings. Monthly meeting 10 August 1864. p. lxxxi.

165. Readymoney, Cowasjee Jehanghir. Sir, Kt.CSI (1812- Died 1878). Member, BBRAS, March 1863-1878. Donated Rs.5000/- for Oriental Literature in 1864. Rs.8000/- for preservation of coins.

166. Premchand Raichand (1831-1906). Jain Broker Munificent donations. (Wache D.E: Premchand Roychund. Bombay 1913).

167. JBBRAS VIII 1863-64, 1864-65. BBRAS Anniversary Meeting. 27 November 1864. Abstract of the Society's Proceedings p. cx-cxi.

168. Petit, Dinshaw Maneckji. New Edition of Encyclopaedia Britannica was purchased from this donation. JBBRAS 14. 1877-80. Abstract of the Society's proceedings. vi.

169. Kolhapur Native Library. Report for the year 1871.

170. GBP. XXIV.Sangli States. p.358.

171. Apte Vachan Mandir, Ichalkaranji. Thodakyat itihas (By Shri Samant). 1970. p.1.

172. In 1850. Municipalities Act (Act No.26 of 1850) was passed and municipalities were established as follows - Sholapur (1852), Poona (1857), Dhulia (1860), Nasik (1864), Ahmednagar (1854), Malegaon (1863).

173. Information collected from the volumes of the GBP.

174. Shrigondekar, G.N. Ed. op.cit.pp.39-40.

175. Literary monthlies 9, Illustrated 12, Scientific 34, General 3, Reviews 10, English Newspapers 20, English and foreign registers, Army lists, and Directories 14, Foreign literary and scientific periodicals 21, American Literary and Scientific Periodicals 11, Australian newspapers 2, Indian newspapers 19, Indian journals, reviews etc.26, and 45 Indian newspapers, Journals and Reviews (One Marathi, 3 Sanskrit and 41 English).

176. GD 1875.Vo..36. p.3.

177. SMI Annual Report 1872-73. p.10.

178. SMI Rules passed at a General Meeting. 22 July 1874 Bye-law 1.

179. SMI Annual Report 1876-77.

180. SMI Annual Report 1877-78.

181. Catalogue of Manuscripts and Books belonging to the Bhau Daji Memorial. Prepared under the Superintendence of Vishvanath Narayan Mandlik and Ardaseer Framjee Moos, Joint Honorary Secretaries, Bhau Daji Memorial Fund, Bombay 1882. 147. clx p. (F.C.Mandlik Collection).

182. Catalogue of the Library of the Bombay Branch Royal Asiatic Society corrected upto the 1st March 1845. Bombay 1845. 80. iv 272 pp. (British Museum Catalogue of Printed Books. (P/M11900. cc. 24) (Poona Univ.Lib). Xerox copy.

183. General Catalogue of the Library of the Bombay Branch of of the Royal Asiatic Society. Corrected upto the 31st December 1862. Bombay 1863. 436 pp. (F.C.Mandlik Collection 39 #B).

184. General Catalogue of the Library of the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society corrected upto the 31st December 1873. Bombay 1875. 852 2 p. (F.C.Mandlik Collection. 45 #B).

BNGL

185. Catalogue of books (received from January 1845 to June 1868). Framjee Cowasjee Institute, Esplanade, Bombay 1868. 114 pp.

BNGL

186. Catalogue of books (received from January 1865 to June 1868). 105 pp. (BBRAS Library. HH h 60 141514 Misc. Pamphlets Part II)

BNGL.

187. Catalogue of books, Bombay. Framjee Cowasjee Institute, Esplanade, 1883. 22,2, 294 p. (F.C.Mandlik Collection 59 NB).

188. Fort Reading Room & Library, Bombay - classified catalogue of books. 1876. 83 pp. (Bombay Archives GD 1881 Vol.83 p.207).

189. The Jamsetjee Nesserwanjee Petit Fort Reading Room and Library. Bombay. Classified Catalogue of books 1895.

190. Ibid. Supplements 1-3. 1895-98. (National Library, Calcutta)

191. Khoja General Reading Room tatha libraryna Dashama Varashni Jaher Sabhnee Hevel. Bombay. 1875. 66 p. (Catalogue of books - English pp. 23-47, Gugerathi 48-57, GD 1875. Vol.36 p.3).

192. BBRAS Special meeting. 25 March 1845. Extract from the Proceedings of the Society. JBBRAS II July 1844 - July 1847. p.334.

193. Anniversary meeting. 26 November 1855. Abstract of the Society's Proceedings for the years 1853-54, 1854-55 and 1855-56. JBBRAS V. Nos. XVIII-XX. p.696.

194. Nasik City Library. Accounts Books. April 1889- 31 Oct 1896. Accounts for the year 1889 (Handwritten).

195. BBRAS Monthly meeting. 22 February 1849. JBBRAS Vol.3. Aug 1847 to Jan 1851. Jan. 1850 issue. Extract from the Proceedings of the Society pp. 137-38.

196. GB 1883 Vol.120.p.109.

197. Most of the libraries have maintained statistics as to books issued subjectwise and total number of magazines circulated. The BNGL had maintained statistics as to books issued by subject of the books and religion of the members (Parseeds, Hindus, Christians and Mahomedans) from 1869 to 1879 while the SMI has maintained statistics for issue of books, periodicals and newspapers. The BBRAS has maintained statistics in respect of issue of new books and old books monthwise.

198. Kolhapur Native Library. Report for 1876-77. Para 8.

199. BBRAS. Rules and regulations passed at a general meeting of the Society held on 7 Feb 1874. Rule No.39 (Mandlik collection).

200. Ibid. Rule No.45.

201. BNGL (1845-79) p.141. Report for 1869. Para 14.

Subject	Parsees.	Books issued	Hindus	Books issued	Chris- tians	Books issued
Geography & History	94	198	102	161	42	42
Voyages & travels		70		28		37
Literature		164		141		66
Novels		301		202		368
Poetry		76		33		24
Politics		9		28		11
Law and Juris		71		107		32
Sanskrit		11		101		11
Sacred Lit.		13		23		6
Science, Arts		64		40		39
Nat History		41		16		20
Medicine		37		20		28
Biography		71		46		35

202. BNGL (1845-79). p.65. Proc. 15th Annual meeting 17 April 1861. Resolution 4.

203. Mandlik, Vishvanath Narayan (1833-1889). Chitpavan Brahmin. Educated at Elphinstone College. Various jobs in government service. Pleader at the Bombay Bar. Editor of Native Opinion. Member of the Bombay Association. Member of the Bombay Legislative Council 1874-1882. Member of the Governor General's Legislative Council 1884.
BBRAS - Vice President 1874. Jt. Hon Secretary 1877-81.
BNGL - Memer, MC. President.

204. Yajnik, Javerilal Umiashankar (1837-1902) Nagar Brahmin. Leading Gujarati political figure. West Scholar. Elphinstone College (1856-57). 1858 Dakshina Fellow. Began as a clerk in a spinning and weaving company and afterwards became a merchant.
BNGL - Member.
Corporator (1878-). A scholar, Journalist, and Public speaker. Sherif of Bombay (1888-90). Member Bombay Legislativ e Council. BBRAS. Member 1882. Secretary 1897-1901. On his death, people in Bombay collected a fund of Rs.13000 and donated to Bhuleshwar library and its name was changed as J N Yajnik Bhuleshwar library.

205. Telang, Kashinath Trimbak (1850-1893). Saraswat Brehmin. Educated at Elphinstone College. Joined Bombay Bar 1872. Scholar, Social reformer and politician. Member of the Bombay Legislative Council, 1884.
BBRAS - Member 1874. President 1893. BNGL - MC Member 1873-7.

206. Deed of Settlement of the Bombay Native General Library dated 21st June 1862. Bombay. Printed at the Union Press, 1862. (Mandlik Collection 151/MF).

207. Cursetjee Nusserwanjee Cama. Trustee, BNGL 1862-

208. Vinayakrao Jagannath Shankarshet (Died 1874). Trustee BNGL 1862-1874. Son of Jagannath Shankarshet.

209. Moos, Ardesir Framjee (1827 -). Educ. - Elphinstone School. Assistant Professor of Physics and Chemistry. Elphinstone School upto 1853. Position in the Telegraph Dept. 1853. Resigned from Government service 1860. Secretary Bombay Royal Mills 1861. Resigned 1867. Entered into business as Merchant. Social Reformer. Pioneer of Female Education. Travelled in India along with Dadabhai Naoroji and Nasserjee Framjee. Founder Young Bombay Party. Comp English - Gujarati Dictionary.

210. Proceedings of the 21st Annual General Meeting BNGL held on 10 June 1867. Resolution 3 and 4. p.110. BNGL 1845-79.

211. Proceedings of 26th Annual General Meeting. 18 April 1872. Resolution 5. p.151. BNGL 1845-79.

212. SMI Annual Report 1869-70 p.12.

213. SMI. Annual Report. 1884-85. p.6.

214. Frere, Sir Henry Bartle Edward (1815-1884). Commonly called Sir Bartle Frere. Statesman. Arrived at Bombay Sep. 1834. Private Secretary to Sir George Arthur, Governor of Bombay, 1842. Political Resident at the Court of the Raja of Satara. Chief Commissioner of Sind 1850. Governor of Bombay 1862-1867. Member of the Indian Council in England 1867. Governor of Cape (Africa) 1877-1880.

215. BBRAS. Anniversary meeting. 30 November 1864. Proceedings JBBRAS VIII 1863-64. 1864-65. p lxxiv. Abstract of the Society's proceedings.

216. Patel, Framji Nasarvanji (1804-1892). Parsi (Shetia). Important merchant. Active supporter of Parsi reform activities in the 1850's. Member of the Bombay Association. Member of the Bombay Legislative Council 1866-1869. Rs.500 donated to BNGL (1858) p.55. 100 Novels presented to BNGL (1859) p. 58.

217. Petit, Sir Dinshaw Manekji (1823-1901). Parsi. Guarantee broker to a number of English Firms. Made huge profits during the American Civil War. Invested in mill industry and landed property. Director of several banks and shipping companies. Munificient charities.

218. Nagarkar, Prof. Baji Nilkanth. Professor in the Engineering College, Poona. Secretary. Member, Committee of Management. Poona NGL.

219. Chhatre, Vinayak alias Kero Laxman (1824-1884). Educ. Elphinstone Institution. Asstt. Professor. Poona College. Superintendent. Normal School. Professor of Mathematics and Natural philosophy, Poona College.

220. Chiplunkar, Krishnashastri Hari (1824-1878). Translation exhibitioner (1852). Asstt. Professor. Secretary Dakshina Prize Committee. Principal, Poona Training College. Reporter on the Native Press (1869). Translated books. Member, Committee of Management, Poona NGL

221. Kunte, Rao Saheb, Mahdeo Moreshwar (1837-1888). Head, Karachi High School Rajaram High School, Kolhapur (4 years). Headmaster, Poona Government English School 1871. Professor of Sanskrit at Bombay. Principal, Gujarati College, Ahmedabad. Member, Poona City Municipality 3 years. Assisted the Library from 1871-1888. Member, Managing Committee. Poona NGL 1872-1877.

222. Kelkar, Krishnaji Raghunath. Teacher, Poona High School. Transferred to Thana in 1896. Secretary, Poona Native General Library from 1874-1896 excepting 2/3 years. Worked continuously for the progress of the library for 20 years. Hon. member Poona NGL. 1896.

223. Ranade, Mahadeo Govind (1842-1901) Justice. Liberalist Leader, Maharashtra. Author. Attended first the meeting of subscribers held on 17-12-1871. Member, Committee of Management since 1872 and presided over various annual meetings. President 1891-1901. Donated Rs. 1000/- to the library from the interest of which books on economics and history are purchased.

224. Chhatrapati, Shivaji Maharaj alias Baba Maharaj (b 1830 d. August 1866). Chief 1862-1866.

Chhatrapati, Rajaram Maharaj (b 1848. d 1870) Chief 1866-70.

Chhatrapati, Shivaji Maharaj (died 25 Dec. 1883). Chief 1870-1873.

Chhatrapati, Shahu Maharaj (b. 1874 - 1922). Son of Jaysingrao Abasaheb Ghatage, Chief of Kagal State. Adopted by the Widow of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. Chief 18 March 1884. Social Reformer.

225. Ghatage, Jaysingrao Abasaheb. Chief of Kagal State. Regent of Kolhapur State (1873-84). President of Kolhapur Native Library 1879. During his presidentship, the building was completed.

226. Unwala, Jamshetji Nasroji. Tutor to H.H.Rajaram Chhatrapati Maharaja. Secretary, Kolhapur Native Library, 1867.

227. Bhatavadekar, Gajanan Krishna. Tutor to the Chief of Ichalkaranji and Bawada (Native Feudatory Chiefs). Secretary, Kolhapur NL. 1868, 1869.

228. Gokhale, Krishnaji Bhikaji. Secretary, Kolhapur NL. 1870.

229. Modak, Balaji Prabhakar (1847-1906). Teacher, Rajaram High School, Kolhapur 1869. Professor of Chemistry, Rajaram College. President, Anniversary Meeting. Mumbai Marathi Grantha Sangrahalaya, 1904. First author in Marathi on Science subjects.

230. Ranade M.G. A note on the growth of Marathi literature. JBBRAS 20, 1897-1900. pp. 78-84.

231. Madgaonkar, Govind Narayan, Mumbaiche varnana, 1863. p.248.

232. Prioikar, Anant Kakba. Ed. Raobahadur Dadoba Pandurang. 1947. pp. 159-60.

233. Digdarshan. Pustak 1 (1840-41) Anka 8. p.211.

234. Havaldar, G.R. Raosaheb Mandlik yanche charitra. Bhag 1 la 1927. p.277.

235. Karamanuk 3 (27) 29 April 1893. p.215.

श्री ~~स्व~~. दत्त प्रसन्न

फक्त दहाच प्रती शिलक

तुपाचे श्री गुरुचरित्र

हा ग्रंथ वीस वर्षापूर्वी सोळ्यातच वापरता यावा म्हणून शाईत चरबीचे रेवजे तूप घालून जाड घोटीव कागदावर गोठवा व सुबक अक्षरांनी छापला आहे हा वाचून कित्येकांचा भूते गेली. याची मूळ किंमत आठ रुपये आहे तरी ५ मे पर्यंत घेणाऱ्यास १।।। रु व ट.ख. ८/६ पडेल

गजानन चिंतामण देव
पुणे, बुधवार पेठ, लायब्ररी

237. Joshi Govind Babaji, Rajanishi. Gelya tis varshapurviche Lok va tyanchya samajuti Athava Maze pravesachi Hakikat. 1896. p. 59.

238. Speech of the Governor of Bombay, Lord Reay, at the time of inauguration of the building of the Poona Native General Library on 30 July 1889. (Shrigondekar, G.N. op.cit. 21).

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CHAPTER - 6

LIBRARIES OF MARATHI BOOKS

In the last chapter we have seen that a number of native general libraries were established at district, taluka and other towns throughout Western Maharashtra. All these libraries were mixed libraries, in the sense that they collected books in all languages, English, Sanskrit, Persian, Marathi, Gujarati, according to local needs.

However, English literature claimed a predominant position in these libraries and the literature in Indian languages was neglected. It found a small corner in these collections. This state of affair was quite understandable.

The literature in the vernacular languages, like Marathi, Gujarati was growing at a rapid rate during this period but it did not find its legitimate places in these libraries. During this period important events took place in the fields of printing, publishing, education, journalism, Marathi literature, Indian politics which made impact on libraries of that time. A brief outline of these developments is necessary for understanding a new phase in library movement i.e. establishment of libraries of Marathi books only. The Marathi Granthasangrahalaye established at Thane in 1893 marks another landmark in the history of public library movement in Western Maharashtra.

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Vishnushastri Krishna Chiplunkar (1850-1882) was called the 'Shivaji' of Marathi Literature. He attacked the attitude of educated Indians and Indian authors of giving importance to English by writing everything in English and inspired people to write in the Marathi language which was necessary for the development of nationalistic ideals among the people. He himself wrote many articles in the magazine 'Nibandhamala' (1874-81) edited by himself, discussed the state of Marathi literature and suggested many ways to bring prosperity to Marathi literature. Thus he made a great impact on the educated Maharashtrians in this respect. He started the New English School in 1881 along with his colleagues Bal Gangadhar Tilak and M.B.Namjoshi.

In order to encourage Marathi authors to write books in Marathi and to promote the sale of Marathi books, a body named Marathi Granthottejak Mandali[1] was founded in 1878 on the lines of the Tract Society of England. It was nurtured by Justice Mahadeo Govind Ranade, Lokahitavadi (Gopal Hari Deshmukh). This Society purchased copies of good Marathi books in bulk and supplied to the subscribers enrolled for this purpose.

The first conference of Marathi authors[2] was held in Poona in 1878 under the Chairmanship of Justice M.G.Ranade. This conference provided a forum for Marathi authors to discuss problems related to writing and production of books in the Marathi language.

Lokmanya B.G.Tilak, Gopal Ganesh Agarkar started nationalistic newspapers, the Kesari and the Mahratta (English) in 1881. Soon after emerged the Indian National Congress in 1885. All these events were responsible for the rise of Indian nationalism.

This resulted into the production of books in Marathi on an increasing scale. For example 967 books were produced between 1876 and 1896 as compared to 1530 from 1865-75 and 550 during 1857 and 1864.[3]

The National Marathi Library

The need for establishment of a library of Marathi books has been stressed for the first time in an article published in the Kesari dated 23 May 1883 and 12 June 1883[4]. The author has reviewed the condition of libraries in the Bombay Presidency and pointed out that the number of Marathi books available in these libraries is very small as compared to books in English. He therefore stresses the need for establishing a library of all the Marathi books, pamphlets, pothis, published so far along with the manuscripts of old Marathi poets, bakhars, archival records, gathe (collection of poems of Saint poets of Maharashtra like Saint Tukaram, Eknath etc.) and writings of all eminent authors, persons in manuscript form. In short all the reading materials published or in manuscript form, be collected and preserved at a central place called the National Marathi Library. He

further recommends to preserve Marathi newspapers also in this library.

To achieve this goal, he appeals the Bombay Government (i.e. the Department of Education), the Public, the Dakshina Prize Committee, the Marathi Granthottejak Mandali and Municipalities in Maharashtra to finance and support this cause. He urges the eminent men like Prof. R.G.Bhandarkar, Rao Bahadur M.G.Ranade, Gopal Hari Deshmukh, Kirtane[5], Sane[6], J.P.Modak[7] and Mehajani[8] to look into this matter.

A certain rather meagre sum was earmarked for purchase of books in Indian languages and only such books as could be purchased out of this amount were made available in the library. Therefore a section of educated people who were well versed in English only could take advantage of the English books in these libraries. The requirements of majority of the people knowing only the vernacular languages or who gained elementary knowledge of English were meagrely attended to.

Under these conditions, it was natural that thinking men should come to realise that the library movement could not make its full contribution to the task of promoting advancement of Indian people, unless libraries devoted solely to the different Indian languages came into existence.

The first annual report of the Marathi Granthasangrahalaya, Thane, contains the following remarks[9].

'Many efforts have been made so far to improve the native (i.e. Marathi) languages. Some wrote new books. Some translated books from foreign languages. Some critically edited and published old books. But no body has tried to collect all these books at one place. In our country, there are many libraries. But the management of the libraries, as far as Marathi language is concerned, is not satisfactory. In all these libraries, books both in the English and in Marathi are preserved. As the number of books in English are written and published on a large scale, most of the income has been spent on purchase of English books and the Marathi books are not collected as it should be. This is a great deficiency. Taking into consideration, this deficiency, this 'Marathi Granthasangrahalaya' has been established."

Marathi Granthasangrahalaya, Thane.

The idea of collection of all Marathi books at one place took concrete shape by the establishment of a library 'Marathi Granthasangrahalaya' at Thane[10] on 1st June 1893[11]. Shri Vinayak Laxman Bhave[12] along with his colleagues took leading part in the establishment and development of this library.

On the opening day, 40 subscribers were enrolled. This number increased to 172 at the end of the first year. The rate of subscription was fixed at 2 Annas per month and an amount of Rs.112-11-7 was realised by way of subscription. Out of this income, about 70% of amount (Rs. 76-10-3) was spent on purchase of books and Rs.28 were spent on house rent, dead stock,

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binding,printing and stationery, postage etc. keeping a balance of Rupees 8 for the next year. 598 books were possessed by the library at the end of the first year, and Books were issued 1976 times to readers.

To manage the affairs of the library,20 meetings (some of all the members and some of the Executive Committee) were held during the first year. This indicates the extent of efforts made by the organisers to develop the library.

The first anniversary meeting of the library was held under the presidentship of Dr.K.H.Kirtikar[13]. In this meeting report of the library for the first year was presented.

Mumbai Marathi Granthasangrahalaya (1898)

The example of Thane was soon followed by Bombay. A library with the name Mumbai Marathi Granthasangrahalaya was established on 1st August 1898[14] by eleven enthusiast workers in Bombay[15], prominent amongst the founders being A.G.Puntambekar[15].

The origin of this library[17] may be traced to the formation of Bharat Sevak Samuha by Shri A.G.Puntambekar, S.H.Modak[18] and S.H.Shejwalkar[19], youths in Bombay, in order to do social work and to train volunteers (Swayamsevaks) for the same.

These youths started a library by collecting books from various sources with the name 'Shri Chhatrapati

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\echanalaya" in 1895 in order to provide Marathi books to Maharashtrians in Bombay. The books were given free to the readers for a year or two. But this activity was hampered by the occurrence of plague in Bombay.

In 1897 these youths again tried to contact eminent men like Justice M.G.Ranade, Sir Bhalchandra Krishna Bhatavadekar, V.K.Oak etc. and obtained favourable opinions for the formation of a library of all Marathi books in Bombay.

With the assurances from numerous people and support received from scholars and eminent men in Bombay, these youths called on a preliminary meeting on 10th July 1898 to establish a library in Bombay. At the beginning, idea was to start a free library, but considering the financial difficulties involved in starting a free library, it was decided to charge a monthly subscription of 2 Annas from readers (same as that of Thane Marathi Granthasangrahalaya).

In the next meetings, rules of the library were framed, adhoc managing committee was formed, accommodation for the library was sought and after completing other preliminary matters, the library was started on 1st August 1898.

The First Year[20]

At the end of the first year, 392 members, including 4 lady members were enrolled. Besides Hindus, people from other communities like Muslims, Israelites and Christians were

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among the members. Father Heglin, Professor of Sanskrit, St. Xavier College, was a Member.

Out of the total income of Rs. 679 received during the first year (Subscriptions from members Rs.346, donations Rs.123 and an amount of Rs.123 collected by arranging a drama performance of Shahu Nagarvasi Natak Mandali in aid of the library), Rs.232 were spent for books, Rs.66 for furniture, Rs.46 for binding of books, Rs.68 towards rent of the room and Rs.65 as establishment charges maintaining a balance of Rs.147 from which a reserve fund of Rs.100 was created.

400 books and some monthly magazines were donated by the Chhatrapati Vachanalaya. 48 individuals donated books to the library and books worth Rs.232 were purchased. In this way 1500 books and 125 issues of Marathi magazines were collected during the year. There were two or more copies of some of the books collected. From these copies, a separate branch [illegible], called Sangrahalaya Branch was formed. The books from this branch were not issued outside the library. 500 books were collected in this branch.

One book at a time was issued to members. Out of the 1500 books from the Vachanalaya Branch (Home lending branch), books were issued 6188 times. 75% of the books issued belonged to Marathi Novels and Dramas.

The library was housed in rented rooms in Dhaswadi, Bombay and was open for 2 hours a day.

Pune Marathi Granthalaya

Poona was somewhat late in emulating the example of Thana and Bombay. A library named Pune Marathi Granthasangrahalaya was established on 2 October 1911[21] under the Chairmanship of Rao Saheb Nanasaheb Bhavanrao Pavgi[22]. Shri Vaman Damodar Talvalkar, pleader, and Ramkrishna Dattatraya Paradkar[23], Editor, Lokasangraha Magazine and owner of Lokasangraha Press were its first secretaries. Shri N.C.Kelkar was Vice President from 1911-1917.

Origin

In 1893 Lokamanya Tilak along with his colleagues Shri G.G.Agarkar, Prof. S.G.Jinsiwale etc. thought of establishing a library with the name 'Sareswati Mandir' but it could not be materialised. In the same year Mr. Bhikajipant Hardikar, associate of Lok. Tilak, thought of establishing a library of Marathi books in Poona and collected some books for the same. But due to his immature death, the library could not make any progress.[24]

In the later period this project did not receive attention by Poona people firstly due to plague epidemic, followed by Partition of Bengal, transportation of Lok. Tilak to Mandalay in 1908 and lastly there was already a public library - The Poona Native General Library in a flourishing condition catering to the needs of the Poona people.

Early years 1911-12 to 1915-16.

For the first six years, the library's working seems to be nominal. Reports about the working of the library for this period are not available. Only a rough income and expenditure statement[25] from the foundation of the library to June 1916 is available. As per this statement, an amount of Rs.848 was received during these years by way of subscriptions and donations. Out of this amount, Rs.246 were spent on house rent, Rs.200 on pay of the clerk, Rs.30 each on dead stock and purchase of books and the remaining amount on newspapers and magazines, with a balance of 6 Annas only on 1st June 1916.

Progress made

The Marathi Granthasangrahalaya, Thana made progress in all directions during the next 25 years as follows

Year	Members	Life members	Books	Issue of books	Income Rs.	Reserve fund. Rs.
1893/94	172/293	Nil	598	1076	112	Nil
1894/95	166	2	1245	4225	268	60
1902/03	185	30	3494	1442	1613	1204
1908/09	530 (1905-6)	191 (1906-7)	5716 (1906-7)	1954 (1906-7)	4163	3752
1909/10	to 1914/15	-	Not in working condition			
1915/16					4613	3790
1919/20					16976	7142
1920/21					10056	8264
1921/22	500		6600	8534	10451	9278
1928/29					19980	18634
1929/30					20054	10907
1930/31					14259	3437
1931/32					5070	3449

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From the above statement is is observed that the library made rapid progress during the First five years from its inception. But there were ups and downs during the later years due to occurrence of plague epidemic. Again from 1904 there was rapid increase in membership, issue of books due to political unrest in India. It was not in a working condition from 1909-10 to 1914-15 as the library authorities did not register the library with the Director of Public Instruction and refused to implement the Government regulations. Due to changed political situations, the library was registered with the Director of Public Instruction in 1914 and started working since 1915[27] and thrived in the later period.

Mumbai Marathi Granthasangrahalaya

As compared to the progress made by the Thane Marathi Granthasangrahalaya, (hereafter referred to as the Thane Library), development of the Mumbai Marathi Granthasangrahalaya (hereafter referred to as the Bombay Library) was rapid which is evident from the following statement[28]

Year	Members	Life members	Patrons	Books	Books issued	Income	Reserve fund
1898/99	392	-	-	2072	6185	678	100
1902/03	384	23	11	5295	9541	1022	1060
1912/13	1020	169	46	14335	15578	6071	2284
1920/21	1259	208	70	10872	17240 (1917/18)	6000	100

The increase in membership of the Bombay Library is rapid as compared to that of Thane library for the following reasons. Bombay's population was denser than that of Thane. Secondly though various libraries were established at Bombay, the reading materials in Marathi were few in these libraries at Bombay. This library fulfilled the needs of readers knowing Marathi language.

Silver Jubilee of the library was celebrated on 26, 27 April 1924 with Shri N.C.Kelkar as President. Noteworthy event on this occasion was that Shri V.L.Bhave, founder of the Thane Library was invited to lecture on this occasion.

Puna Marathi Granthalaya

From 1916-1921, the Puna Marathi Granthalaya (hereafter referred to as the Poona Library) made steady progress. At the end of Sept. 1921[29], there were 1230 monthly subscribers, 38 patrons paying 100 Rs., 126 Life Members paying 25 Rupees, possessed 6034 books (4224 in the Sangrahalaya Branch and 1810 in the Vachanalaya Branch) and received 39 newspapers and magazines (10 English and 29 Marathi). The financial position was sound. An amount of Rs.9601 was collected during 1920-21, with a balance of Rs.2546 in hand. During this period books worth Rs.2200 were purchased besides donations of books from about 300 donors.

The library made progress as follows from 1922 to 1937 when Silver Jubilee of the library was celebrated[30].

	1917	1922	1927	1932	1937
Books				10944	
Sangrahalaya Branch		4224	5299	7182	7900
Reading room branch		1803	2849	3842	4501
Total	3240	6027	8148	10944	12401
Members					
Patrons	-	48	61	109	116
	-	-	12	28	58
Life Members	12	203	261	264	398
Ordinary	350	884	373	437	565
Balance (in Rs.) (Reserve fund, building fund etc.	65	2469	15746	5694	11568
Building			9000		
900 sq. feet area			5000		

Library Buildings

Important achievement of all these libraries was the construction of buildings for the libraries, the Bombay Library being the first in having its building in 1913 followed by Thana in 1930 and Poona in 1937 which brought prosperity and stability to all these libraries.

Mumbai Marathi Granthasangrahalaya

Due to the growth of the library, the library had to be shifted 4 times in the first 5 years. In 1902-03, new house

was hired with a rent of Rs.25/- per month and half the amount of subscription received was spent for the house rent. The organisers, therefore, thought of having a building of its own and decided to raise a building fund in 1906[31]. The Maharaja of Baroda on his first visit to the library on 18th November 1906 promised to assist the library building project. With this assurance, the library authorities made efforts to collect funds for the library building. As the amount of Rs.3000 accumulated in the Reserve Fund by the end of 1906 was not sufficient to meet the requirements, a loan of Rs.2500 was raised and a land costing Rs.6108 was purchased (about 300 square yards) in the Thakurdwar area on 9 February 1909.

The corner stone of the building was laid at the hands of Maharaja of Baroda on 17 December 1910, when he donated Rs.6000 for the library building besides a donation of 125 books for the library. Thereafter consistent efforts were made to collect funds and in 1912 a building for the library was erected costing Rs.25664, as follows

Land for the building (300 yards at Rs.24 per yard)	Rs.6081-12-1
Building materials, labour charges, supervision etc.	18224-10-0
Plumbing charges	681-15-0
Gas light	409-9-11
Interest on Loan	266-10-0
	25664- 9-0

The building consisted of ground and the first floor with a hall on the first floor and was inaugurated by

Shrimant Sayajirao Gaikwad, Maharaja of Baroda on 7 Nov. 1912. The Maharaja encouraged and supported the building project from time to time and contributed about 25% of amount of the cost of the library building. Regarding the library building the Maharaja said[33] "And so,we dedicate this building for the Marathe men of tomorrow, for the Marathe children of today, who are to be the Marathe men of tomorrow. This library that shall tell them of the thoughts and deeds of the Marathe men who have gone on before them, and shall tell the thoughts and the deeds of the Marathe men of today to men yet unborn".

To complete the building a loan of Rs.4000 was raised in 1912 which was fully repaid by the end of 1921. Thus it solved the accommodation problem. The hall on the first floor was given on rent and accrued an income of Rs.361 in 1917-18. It also saved the rent which the library had to pay previously (Rs.68 in 1898 and Rs.500 in 1912).

Within a period of 14 years from its inception,it moved to its own building which laid the foundation of the library on sound basis and brought stability and prosperity to the library later on. All these funds were raised from the people themselves and without any support from the Government of Bombay or Bombay Municipality. It is a great achievement of this library.

In 1920, the Thane Library purchased a small building at the cost of Rs.8500 on the station road. This building required repairs costing 5 to 6 thousand. As the necessary funds were not

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available, the library could not be shifted to this building and some portion of the building had to be given on rent basis. Later on this building was sold in 1929. A new building was erected at the cost of Rs.18500.00 and the library started working in its own building in 1930[34].

The Poona Library started a building fund in 1919 which accumulated to Rs.15746 in 1928. From this fund a land measuring 9000 sq ft with open space and a house thereon was purchased at the cost of Rs.9000.00 in 1929-30[35]. Repairs amounting to Rs.5000 were made to this building and the library started functioning in the building. But the organisers of the library had a plan to erect a new building which was materialised during the next 8 years. It was inaugurated on 20 November 1938 by Shri B.G. alias Balasaheb Kher, Minister in the Popular Ministry of Bombay Province and later on Chief Minister of Bombay State.

Aims and objects

After an analysis of the aims and objects of these libraries[36], it is observed that all these libraries had three aims in common, namely collection of all the Marathi books and magazines, to provide reading materials to people at a minimum rate of subscription and the third to encourage the authors of Marathi books and provide a market for such books. This was explicitly stated in the aims of the Bombay library.

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Besides these aims, the Thana Library aimed at (i) collection of materials in manuscript form such as old prose literature represented by bakhars, kaifiyats, letters and correspondence regarding the Maratha history and ancient poetry, (ii) copying of materials preserved in oral form like ballads, songs etc., (iii) to make these materials available to readers specially to research scholars and (iv) to develop a taste for reading.

From the above, it is noticed that the aims and objects of the Thana library were broader and wider in scope as compared to Bombay and Poona Libraries. Thana library did cater, not only to the needs of local readers but also of all the research workers in and outside Maharashtra. This aspect has been stressed in the annual reports of this library.

It would be interesting to know how, and to what extent these aims and objects were achieved by these libraries during the period under study.

Collection of Books, Magazines etc.

The aim of the Thana Library to collect and preserve all the books published in the Marathi language at one place especially for the use of scholarswas not fully achieved, as the books were issued outside the library and some of the books were lost by members and others mutilated. Therefore from 1896, two copies of each book published in Marathi were purchased. One copy was preserved in the Sangrahalaya Branch

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and the other was reserved for home reading (called Vachanalaya Branch). Additional copies of books in demand were purchased for home reading as necessity arose. But the copies purchased for the Sangrahalaya Branch were not issued out of the library and were to be consulted within the premises of the library.[38]

This pattern of preservation of books for the use of scholars was adopted by Bombay and Poona Libraries since their inception and books were added to this branch every year. Thus by the end of 1907, Thane Library collected 5716 books, Bombay Library collected 10247 books upto the end of 1917-18 and the Poona Library collected 4222 books upto 1922.

Sangrahalaya Branch for magazines was also started by Thane Library in 1916[39]. Two or more copies of some magazines were subscribed. One copy of important magazines was preserved in the Sangrahalaya Branch for consultation and reference in the library.

At Thane Library beginning was made to collect all editions of the same work in the library as old editions of books are very useful source materials especially for writing historical accounts and for tracing the developments in a field. These editions were preserved in the Sangrahalaya branch[43]. Novel procedures for collecting old editions of books and purchase of books were adopted, by which new editions of books were offered

in exchange of old editions of books, by the Thana Library[40]. Bombay Library purchased two copies of books for the price of one copy[41].

Scholarly articles were published in the Marathi magazines and the number of such magazines in Marathi was on increase at that time. Back volumes of these magazines was a valuable source for study and research. These libraries, therefore, collected and preserved the back issues or volumes of Marathi periodicals (especially monthlies, quarterlies etc.). 400 volumes of Marathi periodicals were collected by the Thana Library at the end of the 10th year. Sets of the magazines Dhanvantari (65 issues), Vividhdnyane Vistar, Kavyasangraha were completed during the first five years by the Bombay Library.

TheThana Library collected Nautical Almanacs in Marathi (Panchanga) for 38 years. These are very useful for a number of purposes. These were issued against deposit.

Rare Books in the Marathi language were also collected[42]. For example Vaijantha Sharma's Simhasanbattishi printed at Serampore (Calcutta) in 1814 in Modi script (character) presented by Hari Narayan Apte was in the collection of the Bombay library.

Catalogue of books of the Bombay Library was first printed in 1899 and was kept upto-date by issuing supplements from time to time (4 supplements were issued upto 1912). A

revised catalogue of books was published in 1926[44]. A list of important books added to the library was published in the Annual reports of the library since 1907-08. It was arranged in classified order from 1910-11. Thus efforts were made to inform the readers about the contents of the library.

Major portion of this collection was strengthened by way of donations received from individuals (members, authors) and institutions (printers, publishers, editors of newspapers and magazines). This is evident from the list of donors printed in the annual reports. For example, Thana Library collected more than 50% books out of 3494 from about 400 individuals and institutions during the first ten years of its working by way of donations.

Maharashtra Kavi (Magazine)

One of the aims of the Thana Library was to collect manuscripts (Marathi literature in manuscript form) and the library had collected such Mss especially of Marathi poetry written from 1200 to 1700 A.D. The library authorities, therefore, published a Marathi Magazine 'Maharashtra Kavi' (1903) which included valuable works of Marathi poets. The editor of this magazine was Shri Vinayak Laxman Bhave. 1500 subscribers with One Rupee subscription per year were enrolled at the end of the first year[45] making it financially self-supporting. It continued for about 5 years, publishing 51 issues and was closed in 1908.

Members and their privileges

Second aim of these libraries was to give reading materials to the people at minimum rate of subscription. Therefore Vachanalaye (Home Lending) Branch of the libraries was formed and following rates of subscription were prescribed for different categories of Members.

	Ordinary Members	Life Members	Patrons
Thane	2 As per month	Rs.30	Rs.100 or more
Bombay	2 As per month	Rs.25 Rs.50 (1910)	Rs.100 or more
Poona	As per month	Rs.25	Rs.100 or more

The Bombay Library might have prescribed a lesser amount of subscription for Life Members (Rs.25) than that of the Thane Library (Rs.30) in order to attract and enrol more Life Members than the Thane Library. It may be noticed that the Bombay Library however, raised the amount of subscription for Life Members from Rs.25 to Rs.50 in August 1910[46]. The rise might have been caused for raising funds for the library building. But the Thane Library did not increase its rate of subscription for Life Members. The Poona Library might have prescribed the rate of Rs.25 for Life Membership taking into consideration the financial position of an average citizen of the city.

A comparison may be made between the rates of membership subscription of the libraries specialised in Marathi books and those of some other different language libraries in Bombay having books in different languages.

Name of the library	Annual membership subscription	Life membership subscription
1. The B.B.R.A.S.	Rs.75/-	Rs.600 Rs.500
2. The Sassoon M.I.	Rs.24/-	Rs.150
3. The B.N.G.L.	Rs.24/- (Re.2/-pm)* Rs.12/- (Re.1/-pm)** Rs.6/- (As.8 pm)***	Rs.150 300

*First Class, **Second Class, *** Third class.

From these rates it will be observed that the rates prescribed by these libraries were minium and the capacity of average Marathi person to pay for the library has been taken into consideration while prescribing these amounts.

These subscription rates were increased in the later period. The rate of 2 Annas per month for ordinary members of the Bombay Library was increased to 8 Annas per quarter and 3 Annas per month if paid per month from August 1910[47]. In 1913 it was again proposed to raise it to 12 Annas per quarter but great opposition was made to revise the rate of subscription. It took five years to receive the sanction of the Niyamak Mandal to the revised rates which were accepted in 1918[48] (i.e. at the end of 1st World War).

Membership to outstation Persons

Collection of all the reading materials in the Marathi language was not possible for a library catering to local needs only. Aims of these libraries were broad and their scope was

extended to research workers all over Maharashtra/India. Therefore membership of the Thana Library was kept open to all the people in Maharashtra[49]. This scheme had good success. From the list of members printed in the annual reports of these libraries it is observed that many people residing outside Thana who were interested to promote the cause of this library - Marathi Authors, Chiefs of Native States, Journalists, Scholars and Eminent Persons became ordinary or life members of this library. Bombay and Poona libraries followed Thana in this respect. These libraries thus gained support from the people of Maharashtra.

Another feature of these libraries was the prescription of one class of ordinary members. It had no hierarchy of classes of members such as the first, second, third with varying privileges for each class of member as regards issue of books and periodicals. Only one book at a time was issued to all the members. This is a step towards equality of members.

Increase in Membership

From the figures regarding membership, it is observed that though the number of ordinary members on roll of these libraries was on increase every year, many members on roll did not pay their subscription. For example, number of subscribers on roll of the Thana Library in 1896-97 was 450. But the average number of membership calculated on the basis of amount of subscription received was 227 only.

At Bombay in 1913-14, out of the 885 members on roll, 285 members did not pay the subscription. These libraries, therefore, had to suffer financial loss. This loss was met by enrolment of new members each year. Thus there was constant addition and discontinuation of members each year. Following was the position of the Bombay Library in 1920-21.

Out of the 809 members on roll, 258 members discontinued membership and 430 new members were enrolled making the total to 981. From these members, subscription due amounted to Rs.3701, out of which Rs.659 was to be received from members. An amount of Rs.726 in respect of arrears due (related to previous years) was written off. Thus the percentage of amounts not paid (and therefore amount written off) comes to 15% of the total amount due.

Recovery of subscription due was a recurrent problem for all these libraries. In order to recover the subscription amount, Hari Govind Shivale was appointed on 10% Commission basis in 1913 by the Bombay Library[50]. There were ups and downs in membership. Sometimes, number of membership decreased. For example number of members of the Thane Library decreased from 271 in 1900-01 to 170 in 1901-02 as deposits were required to be paid by members for taking books home from this year.

On the contrary, membership of the Bombay Library increased after 1912 due to completion of an independent and spacious library building and purchase of new books.

Life Members and Patrons

Amounts for capital expenditure were collected by enrolling Life Members and Patrons on an increasing scale by all these libraries. Subscription received from the Life Members was kept in Reserve Fund. At the Bombay Library from the donations received from Patrons, some portions of the amount was used for day-to-day expenses of the library and the remaining amount was kept in Reserve Fund for library building and such other projects.

In this way, amounts of Rs.1200 and of Rs.3000 were accumulated in this fund of Thana and Bombay Libraries by the end of 1905 and 1906 respectively. Vigorous attempts were made to enrol Life Members in one year. For example, 64 new Life Members were enrolled by the Thana Library in 1906-07. 96 Life Members and 22 Patrons were enrolled by the Bombay Library from 1909-10 to 1912-14 in order to raise funds for the library building. In 1921, 208 Life Members and 70 Patrons were on the roll of the Bombay Library. Among these members we find authors, scholars, publishers, journalists, sardars, chiefs of native states and persons of average income - all Indians.

Use of the Library

The annual reports of these libraries give details statistics regarding issue of books and magazines to readers subjectwise, along with the percentage of books read in each subject. From the statistics, some observations can be made about issue of books and the reading habits of the members.

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At the Thana Library during the first year, 1087 books were issued. This number increased to 4260 in the next two years. Average issue of books per year for the first five years was 3430. For the next five years 2000 and the next 4 years about 1800. The decrease in the number of books issued was due to occurrence of the plague epidemic, purchase of few new books for the library and the condition of payment of deposit for the books for home reading.

At the Bombay Library the number of books issued was 6185 in 1899-1900, 15578 in 1911-12 and 17240 in 1917-18. Average number of books issued per reader was 16 in 1899-1900 and 17 in 1917-18. This slight increase in the number of books issued may be due to purchase of few new books in the library every year.

At the Thana Library there were few readers who read more than 100 books during the first two years.[51] This indicates the desirability among the readers to read books. The difficulty was regarding supply of new books to readers each year.

From the statistics of books issued subject-wise, it is observed that the percentage of books read was high (more than 50%) for novels, fiction, drama, followed by history, biography and travels. This indicates the liking of readers in a public library. Hari Narayan Apte's novels were very popular at that time. Hence additional three copies of his novels were purchased in 1911 by the Bombay Library, after the long deliberations

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which resulted in voting. Six members of the Committee of Management voted in favour of additional copies whereas only one opposed[52].

Books in other subjects, even though good, were read less. An experiment was, therefore, made to read poetical works of Muktesh̃war and other poets to readers for some months in 1898-99 at the Thana Library in order to develop a taste for reading poetry[53]. Consequently the number of issue of poetical works increased to 81. The number of issue of poetical works for 3 previous years was 35,30,75 respectively. It was discontinued due to plague in Thana. This experiment signifies the educative role of the library in relation to readers. Libraries should not only give the readers what they demand but also create a taste for reading good books as recommended by the Second Law of Library Science - Every Book has its Reader.

But in 1896[54], without a purposeful effort, at the Thana Library books in subjects like Philosophy, Religion and Medicine were read on an increasing scale. This increase may be due to occurrence of plague in Thana. Books in Medicine were required in order to know the nature, causes and treatment for the disease. Books in Philosophy and Religion gave the mental support to the people in the calamity they had to face.

Magazines were read on an increasing scale. For example at the Bombay Library, the percentage of magazines read increased from 5.40 in 1898-99, 6.67 in 1908-09 to 14.27 in

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1920-21. This indicates the popularity and use of Marathi magazines among the readers. As compared to books, sufficient amount was spent on purchase of newspapers and magazines. The Thane Library had to start a magazine branch from 1915-16.

Reading Rooms of Newspapers and Magazines

One thing about these libraries can be noticed. These libraries restricted their activities only to issue of books for home reading in their early years due to shortage of accommodation and paucity of funds. The reading rooms of newspapers and magazines were started later. It is a fact that Reading Room activity of a library requires additional space, longer working hours, and extra establishment charges as it involves more transactions with the readers, all resulting into more expenditure. This activity, therefore, was not undertaken in the early years and newspapers could not be purchased.

As there was, however, a constant demand for reading room, the Bombay Library started a reading room in 1906-07 with one Daily (The Induprakash), 10 Weeklies, 1 Fortnightly and 27 Magazines)(Monthlies and Quarterlies) all in Marathi. It seems that there was opposition for purchasing reading materials in English as the library aimed at collection of all Marathi books and periodicals. However, the English daily The Bombay Chronicle, was taken as an 'exception' in 1913[55]. In 1921, the Bombay Library received 92 newspapers and magazines out of which 18 were received gratis.

Due to constant demand from the readers, the Thana Library had also to open a Magazine Branch from 1915-16. Marathi magazines were issued to subscribers for a subscription of two Annas per month. 77 members took advantage of this branch paying Rupees 108 as subscription, at the end of the first year. It was open for 4 days in a week. 60 magazines were received, some were presented, some were received, through concessional subscription. Of some magazines, 5 to 6 copies were purchased due to demand from readers in 1921-22.

Though the Thana and Bombay libraries purchased only the Marathi periodicals, the Poona library acquired newspapers and magazines both in Marathi and English, for its reading room. It has been observed that the Poona Library started working in full swing only from 1918 and had to compete with the Poona Native General Library which acquired periodicals in English, Marathi and other languages. The Poona Library, therefore, had to subscribe to periodicals in English in order to increase its membership.

Loss of books

There was considerable loss of books due to discontinuation of membership without any intimation and thereafter non-return of books by members. For example at the Bombay Library, about 2310 books were detected as lost since its establishment in the stock-taking conducted in 1911. Same was

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the experience at the Thane Library. In order to reduce this loss, the Thane Library decided to accept deposit of 8 Annas from ordinary members in 1902[56]. Consequently number of subscribers decreased from 271 to 170 next year. Bombay Library also decided to accept deposit of Re. One in Nov.1917 as 350 books were found lost at the Bombay Library in 1917-18[57]. Thereafter the amount of deposit was raised to Re.2 (Two) during 1920-21.[58] Similarly books were discarded as useless from time to time. For example 150 books were discarded by the Bombay Library in 1917-18. Many books were mutilated due to constant handling. The production of books, the quality of paper used for printing, poor binding of books, carelessness in handling books - all these factors are responsible for this phenomena.

Library Finance

As the income from subscription of ordinary members was meagre due to cheaper rates of subscription, constant efforts were made to collect funds for which various novel programmes were undertaken and measures used. The following deserve special mention.

History of the Bombay Library upto 1920 is full of such efforts made to raise funds for the library and its building. Marathi theatre and Marathi Dramas were very popular among the people. Number of drama companies were established in Maharashtra during this period. Therefore

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performance of dramas by eminent drama companies like Shahunagarwasi Mandali were arranged and funds for the library were collected. Some performances were given free, some with concessional rates. An amount of Rs.10,000 approximately was raised in this way. Circus shows (Shelar Circus, Deval Circus) were also arranged. Discourses on Shrimad Bhagavadgita by Shri Sadashiv Govind Kanhere were arranged and Rs.500/- were obtained. The Chiefs of Native States, Sardars, authors and other eminent and wealthy men while on visit to Bombay were contacted, invited to the library for observing the working of the library, given Panasupari and donations were collected. The Maharaja of Baroda donated Rs.6000/- for the Library building. Other important donations were as follows:

Rs.1000	Sir Bhalchandra Krishna Bhatavadekar
Rs. 500	Chief of Ichalkaranji Shrimant Babasaheb Gorpade.
Rs.1000	Mr.Vasamali Janardan Raghoba (as per his Will).

From the above it is observed that very few donations amounting Rs.500/- and above were received. It is significant that all other funds and donations were collected by way of small contributions from members and others either by enrolling them as Life Members or patrons. Even Shri Mahadeo Ramchandra Tulpule, a postman by profession donated Rs.250/- to the library as per his Will. This instance shows that common people showed interest in the welfare of the library.

All these libraries were managed economically. The Secretaries, members of the Committee of Management and

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Presidents worked honorarily for the progress of these libreries. The Thana Library was managed honorarily by the members of the Committee of Management for 3 years from 1915 to 1917 and saved the money required for establishment charges. Out of the amount of Rs.3500/- collected by way of donations and subscriptions during the first ten years by the Thana Library, 1/3 amount was kept in balance as Reserve fund and 1/3 amount each was spent on (1) Purchase of books and periodicals and (2) establishment and other expenses of the library. The Bombay Library concentrated on erecting library building. Therefore meagre amounts (Rs.232 in 1898-99, Rs. 320 in 1912-13 and Rs.465 in 1920-21) were spent on for purchase of books. On the other hand, increasing amounts were spent for newspapers and magazines. For example in 1917-18, Rs. 338 were spent on books and Rs.127 on newspapers and magazines and in 1920-21 Rs.485 on books and Rs. 290 on newspapers and magazines. Therefore few books were purchased for the library.

The Library Miscellany (Baroda)[59], therefore,commented on the report of the Bombay Library for the year 1917-18 in respect of collection of Marathi books by the Library as follows

> "It is degrading for the library that only 6766 books were collected by the library so far. If the library gives more attention to enrich the collection (instead of raising floors over floor over the existing building), it will be an ideal library. It

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should aspire as Maharashtra's National Library. The library has no section for children and ladies. The library received Rs.361 towards rent, it means that the library has more space".

It also criticised the organisers of the library for making constant appeals of funds for the library building in its annual reports. It is true that the library did not spend more amount for purchases of books as the organisers had to give priority for the library building during this period.

Organisation and Management

The Thane Library was managed by a Committee of Management with office bearers like the President, Treasurer and Secretaries. Poona Library had Vice-President in addition to the above structure. These were elected at the annual meeting by all the members present. Most of these appointments were unanimous.

The Bombay Library was managed by the Niyamak Mandal (Governing body) and the Committee of Management (Vyavasthapak Mandal). The Niyamak Mandal[60] was composed of all the Life Members, the Patrons, 11 Founder Members, and 12 members of the Committee of Management of the current year (elected from the ordinary members subscribing to the library monthly, quarterly and yearly). There was one President, One Vice-President and Two Treasuers to the Niyamak Mandal elected

from among the members of the Niyamak Mandal. It had the power to frame new rules, amend the existing rules, appoint new Committee of Management each year, approve the annual report and take decisions on policy matters. Novel feature of this library is the supremacy of the Niyamak Mandal, the meeting of which was called the General Meeting.

The Committee of Management - The Executive Body

To implement the decisions taken by the Niyamak Mandal and to manage the day-to-day affairs of the library, a Committee of Management of 12 members was appointed from among the subscribers to the library, to be elected annually. It had one Chairman, One Vice-Chairman, 2 Secretaries, One Treasurer and 7 members. These were also members of the Niyamak Mandal.

From the composition and functions of these two bodies, it is observed that policy decisions were taken by the Niyamak Mandal in which special representation was given to Patrons, Life members and the eleven Founders.

Ordinary members had been given freedom in the execution of the decisions taken by the Niyamak Mandal and in the management of the day-to-day affairs of the library. Main drawback in this type of representation seems that the ordinary members had less voice in the policy making process of this institute. It was not truely democratic in representation and decision making. There was, therefore, constant demand to change this

structure. Accordingly in 1921, 4 additional members were increased to the Niyamak Mandal to be elected each year from amongst the ordinary members (to the Niyamak Mandal)[62].

The Nationalistic attitude of the organisers of the Thana Library is reflected in its decision of not registering the library with the Director of Public Instruction during the period from 1909 to 1914 and suffered losses due to shifting of the library from place to place.

The Bombay Library was registered with the Director of Public Instruction. The management of the Library seems to be pro-government. It handed over all proscribed publications to the Government and did not try to contradict the decisions of the Government.

The Library Establishment

At the Bombay Library, a clerk was appointed to do the day-to-day work of the library on a salary of 10 Rs. per month which was raised to Rs.25/- in 1921. He was assisted by peons. After the erection of new building, expenditure on establishment charges increased from Rs.554 in 1913-14 to Rs.1834 in 1920-21 due to increasing working hours, issue of books and magazines and appointment of additional staff.

The Annual Meetings

Annual meeting of the library was an occasion of worship of the Goddess Saraswati. A man of letters from Maharashtra who had contributed to Marathi literature and held a prominent position in the Marathi language - was invited to preside over this function, Speech of the Chief Guest was the main attraction to the members of this meeting.

Journalists like Lokmanya Tilak, N.C.Kelkar, Editor of Marathi magazines, Authors like R.B.Gunjikar, H.G.Chapekar, Novelists Like H.N.Apte, Playwriters like K.P.Khadilkar, Historians like V.K.Rajwade, Linguists as well as Grammarians like P.D.Gune, N.D.Velankar were among the invitees.

Speeches delivered on this occasion were and are still considered masterpieces of scholarship and learning of the speakers. Many of the speeches were later on published.[63] Silver Jubilee of the Mumbai Marathi Granthasangrahalaya was celebrated under the Chairmanship of Shri N.C.Kelkar. On this occasion Shri V.L.Bhave, founder of the Thana M.G. for the first time gave information about the authors of the Mahanubhava Pantha and their works to the people in his lecture on this occasion.

Annual report of the library was presented to the members at this meeting. In this way, Marathi authors and scholars in Maharashtra were associated with the working of this library.

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Many of the chief guests, presidents of the anniversary meeting became Life Members, donated books and other materials and later on assisted the library from time to time.

By inviting Marathi authors and scholars in Maharashtra at the anniversary meetings and permitting outstation persons to become members, the library kept a contact with the people in Maharashtra and gained support from eminent men for its development. A sort of public relations function was performed. It also created a platform for scholars and authors in Maharashtra to discuss problems related to the development of Marathi language and literature.

Annual Reports

Annual reports on the working of Thane and Bombay Libraries have been regularly published, preserved and give detailed information on all activities of the library. Statistics about the books possessed by the library by subjects along with statistics about the number of volumes issued to readers by subjects is also given with comments on the reading habits of the members. Problems faced while implementing the aims and objects of the library have been discussed in detail. Value and importance of this type of library has been stressed from time to time. The style is convincing and lucid. On the whole, these annual reports are masterpieces of annual report writing. The reports of Poona Library are very brief and are not issued annually.

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Persons who led the library movement

The distinguishing feature about the founders of these libraries, is that these libraries were founded by youths belonging to Hindu middle class families with ordinary sources of income like V.L.Bhave and his collegues of the Thana Library, A.G.Puntambekar and ten other founders of the Bombay Library and Shri S.M.Paradkar and V.M.Talvelkar of the Poona Library. All these were nationalistic in their attitude and worked honorarily with zeal for the progress of these libraries.

At the Thana Library, though the lead was taken by Shri V.L.Bhave, his name does not appear in the reports of the library as an office-bearer. He took active part in all the activities of the library till his death. Silver Jubilee of the Mumbai Marathi Granthasangrahalaya was celebrated with Shri V.L.Bhave as the Chief speaker of the function. During his speech he brought to the notice of the Marathi people for the first time the hidden treasures of Mahanubhava literature, works and achievements of the authors of the Mahanubhava Sect, and their contribution to Marathi literature.

The responsibilities of Secretaryship of the library was shouldered by common people coming from Hindu middle class families like Chintaman Anandrao Mayajikar, Vaman Laxman Kale, Damodar Sakharam Deshmukh, Narayan Govind Atre, Bhikrev Gangadhar Abhyankar, Sitaram Mahadeo Abhyankar, Vasudev Ramchandra Nachane. Among the members of the Committee of Management were persons like Rajaram Sakharam Bhagwat, Moreshwar Vasudeo Donde, later on the Mayor of Bombay.

The lion's share of the progress made by the Bombay Library goes to Shri Ambadas Gopal Puntambekar, who worked as the Honorary Secretary for more than 35 years from 1898-1932 and as Vice-President from 1936-45. He had his education upto Matric and was employed in the Bombay Municipality. He devised various programmes to collect funds for the library and for the first time shouldered the responsibility of arranging drama performances in aid of the library in spite of opposition from his colleagues. By the success at the first attempt, numerous drama performances were organized successfully and funds were collected. He contacted Sardars, Chiefs of Native States, while on visit to Bombay and invited them to observe the working of the library and enrolled them as Life Members or Patrons. He contacted Marathi authors and scholars and invited them at the anniversary meetings.

For the services rendered by him, he was enrolled Honorary Patron of the library in 1917 and in 1934 was felicitated with a purse of Rs 500, a golden ring and dress etc. He returned this amount of Rs. 500 to the library and formed a book fund for purchase of books from the interest thereon.

Other founder members of the Bombay Library came from middle class Hindu families and contributed towards the progress of the library. Shri Anant Nilkanth Pitkar[64], government servant and correspondent of the 'Kesari' worked for about 23 years firstly as Vice-President from 1898-1902 and as a Treasurer upto 1921.

Shri Narayan Krishna Gadre[65], author of 9 Marathi books, concentrated on strengthening the library collection, compiled annual reports of the library and kept a contact with Marathi authors. He worked as reference librarian, guided readers with the spirit of the First Law of Library Science 'Books are for use'. Shri Narayan Krishna Bakre[66], worked as Secretary of the library for the first two years and later on compiled a classified catalogue of books which was found very useful to the readers. Shri Shanker Hari Shejwalkar, employed at the Bombay Municipality, was fond of reading books and collected books by purchase from time to time which formed the nucleus of Chhatrapati Vachanalaya. He prompted Shri Puntambekar to start this library. He worked as Treasurer of the library for the first five years from 1898 to 1902. He took active part in social activities like Ganesh and Shivaji Festivals, invited leaders and authors for observing the working of the library and collected funds for the library.

All this progress was achieved by the leadership and guidance of Dr. Sir Bhalchandra Krishna Bhatavadekar[67] and Shri Gajanan Bhaskar Vaidya[68]. Dr.Bhatavadekar guided the library as President of the Niyamak Mandal for more than 20 years (1900-1922) and as one of the Trustees since 1917. He was a patron of the library, donated Rs.1000 for the library building and brought prestige to the institution. Shri G.B.Vaidya, Theosophist, friend of Lok Tilak, Journalist, Press-owner and social reformer worked as Chairman of the Managing Committee for 20 years since 1900 and as one of the Trustees.

The progress of the Poona Library specially after 1918 was achieved by the selfless efforts made by Shri Annasaheb Narayan Pavagi, pleader, since 1918. He worked as Secretary of the library for more than 12 years (1919-26, 1930-33). During this period the library had a sound financial position and possessed the library building. Shri Ramakrishna Dattatraya Paradkar worked as Secretary since its foundation to 1921 and extended all cooperation to Shri Vaman Damodar Talvalkar, pleader by profession and Secretary of the library during the initial period upto 1916.

The Library received guidance and support from scholars and men of eminence at that time like Rao Saheb Narayanrao Bhavanrao Pavagi, President of the library from 1911 to 1933 and Shri N.C.Kelkar[69], Vice-President from 1911 to 1933 and President from 1933-39.

Contributions and Achievements

Foundation of the Marathi Granthasangrahalaya at Thana marked a new era in the development of public library movement in Western Maharashtra.

The idea of collection of all the books and other reading materials in the Marathi language at one place for the use of the scholars is valuable. This is the function of a modern National Library or a library of national importance. Its scope was thus wider than any public library of local importance.

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Requirements of authors and research workers have been considered for the first time, while establishing and developing this library. Attempts were therefore made to collect all the books, magazines, back issues of magazines, all editions of books in the Marathi language from all over Maharashtra and distinct parts of India. Novel procedures were adopted like (1) to collect old editions of books in exchange of latest editions of books, (2) purchase of two copies of each book and preservation of one copy for consultation in the library, and (3) preserving the collection in two branches, Sangrahalaya Branch and Vachanalaya Branch. All have been found realistic, practicable and were later on implemented by other libraries.

The library also aimed at collecting reading material in manuscript form as well as in oral form and published the material in manuscript form in the magazine (Maharashtra Kavi) issued specially for this purpose.

All these features signify the wider scope of the library. This library is a place of a continuous study. Books were therefore preserved for consultation in the library. This new role implies longer working hours of the library and provision of study and research facilities within the premises of the library.

For the common people, the library provided rading material at cheaper rate by forming a home lending branch.

In this way, while developing the library, needs of two types of readers - scholars as well as ordinary readers - are taken into consideration. Thus the library has performed the function of both a public subscription library and of a research library. Besides these activities this library kept a contact with all the Marathi loving people by inviting men of letters at the anniversary meeting, opening membership to outstation peoples, enrolling Life Members and Patrons for financial stability and publishing the activities of these library in the Annual reports.

By the establishment of the Thane Marathi Granthasangrahalaya, a new indigenous model of public library was developed by Indians according to their needs. Attention of the people in Maherashtra was drawn to the necessity of collection and preservation of reading materials in the Marathi language at one place and the Thane Library played the role of a pioneer in this field.

Mumbai Marathi Granthasangrahalaya

Example of the Thane Library was followed by the Bombay Library in many respects. It started two branches of the library - Sangrahalaya Branch and Vachanalaya Branch, purchased two copies of books whenever necessary, enrolled ordinary members, life members and patrons with a cheap rate of subscription, kept a contact with Marathi authors and others by inviting them at the Anniversary Meeting and published Annual reports each year.

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Greater achievement of this library was to erect an independent library building within 14 years of its inception. This library was successful in raising the necessary funds and obtained support from the Maharaja of Baroda and other eminent men of that day. Various methods and programmes arranged by this library to collect funds were later on followed by many libraries.

The Poona Library aimed at collecting Marathi books and magazines. It also started a reading room, subscribed to newspapers and magazines both in English and in Marathi. It followed Thane and Bombay Libraries in dividing the collection into two bfanches, Sangrahalaya and Vachanalaya, enrolled life members, patrons and ordinary members, prescribed cheap rates of subscription, invited eminent persons in Maharashtra at the Anniversary meetings, raised funds and had a sound financial position with increased membership.

An Assessment

It is necessary to examine whether the chief aim of these libraries to collect and preserve all the books and magazines published in the Marathi language has been achieved. These libraries collected books and magazines in the Marathi language upto 1921-22 as follows[70].

Town	Year	No. of magazines	Number of books		Total
			Sangraha-laya branch	Vachana-laya branch	
Thana	1921-22	900			6600
Bombay	1920-21	1367	7481 (1102 magazines)	3391 264	10872
Poona	1920-21	298	4224	1803	6027

Marathi Magazines subscribed

Town	Dailies	Bi-weekly	Weekly	Fort-nightly	Monthly	Quarterly	Total
Thana							60
Bombay 1920-21	3	-	23	1	51	7	95
Poona upto 30-9-21	9	1	10	1	15	1	32

Thereafter this collection was strengthened each year.

Remarks by Shankar Ganesh Date

A comprehensive bibliography of books published in the Marathi language from 1800 to 1937 was compiled by Shri S.G. Date. According to this bibliography[71], the total number of books published upto 1937 was 18768. For compilation of this

bibliography, Shri S.G.Date visited most of the libraries in India and Maharashtra in particular, for search of Marathi books and the entry for each book was made only after physically verifying the book by himself.

Regarding the collection of Marathi books by libraries he states that

> "There is no single library in Maharashtra where all the books published in the Marathi language from 1800 to 1935 are preserved. There are libraries at Thane, Bombay, Poona and Baroda where Marathi books are preserved, but these contain only 50% of the total books published so far."[72]

As regards the difficulties faced for collecting all Marathi books, at one place, he observes

> "Books trade in Maharashtra dealing with Marathi books has not been developed. 50% of the books ordered are not procured by these booksellers. All the books, therefore, are not reached to libraries".[73]

Marathi books are chiefly published in the Bombay Presidency, it is followed by Central Provinces and Berar. Besides these Marathi books were published in the Native States like Kolhapur, Sawantwadi, Miraj, Sangli, Aundh, Akkalkot, Baroda, Phaltan etc. and regions like Deccan Hyderabad, Indore, Gwalior, Devas, Rajputana, Malwa. These were not covered by the Press and Registration of Books Act 1867. Books published in these places might not have been procured.[74]

Work done by the Government of Bombay

As per provisions of the Press and Registration of Books Act 1867, each printer in the Bombay Presidency had to submit three copies of each book printed by him to the Government of Bombay. One of these copies was preserved in the Secretariat Record Office at Bombay. The list of these publications was published quarterly in the Bombay Government Gazette[75]. But this collection was transferred from one place to another and therefore was not preserved carefully. Thus this collection was in a neglected condition and many books were destroyed[76]. Later on this collection formed the nucleus of the Maharashtra Regional Library established by the Government of Bombay in 1946 at Poona[77]. Copies of all the Marathi publications published in the Bombay Presidency were deposited in this library as per amendment made in the Press and Registration of Books Act 1867 in 1947[78].

As per provisions of the Delivery of Books (Public Libraries) Act of 1954, as amended by Act No.99 of 1956, copies of all the publications published in Marathi language in India are deposited in the Central Reference Library, Calcutta. A catalogue of these publications has been printed in the form of Indian National Bibliography and its Marathi version 'Rastriya Grantha Suchi - Marathi Vibhag' from 1958[79]. Thus the idea of National Marathi Library propagated in 1883 has become a reality after independence, to some extent. as all Marathi publications are not received in this library.

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Contributions of these libraries

The Government of Bombay received copies of all the books in the Native languages free of charge. These publications should have been preserved and made available to scholars by the Bombay Government. But it was neglected[30]. On the contrary, these libraries, without any assistance from the Government of Bombay, collected and preserved at least 50% of all the publications published in the Marathi language upto 1937. The Mumbai Marathi Granthasangrahalaya, at present, possesses a rich collection of old Marathi books published upto 1867 and back volumes of Marathi magazines.[31]

NOTES

1. Tulpule, S.G. Marathi Granthanirmitichi Vatachala. 1974. pp. 5051.

2. Ibid. pp.123-124.

3. Ranade, M.G. A note on the growth of Marathi Literature (1898). JBBRAS XX (Aug. 1897-June 1900). Article VI. p.96.

4. The National Marathi Library. Athave Maharashtrache Pustakalaya (Koni lihun pathavilela majakur) [Author is anonymous]. Kesari 23 May 1883, 12 June 1883.

5. Kirtane, Nilkanth Janardan (1844-1896). Author. Maratha Historian.

6. Sane, Kashinath Narayan (1850-1927). B.A. Editor, Kavyetihasa Sanghraha. Jan 1878 - Dec 1888. Author Historian. Teacher.

7. Modak, Janardan Balaji (1845-1890). B.A. Editor, Kavyetihasa Sangraha. Jan 1878 - Dec 1888. Author. Headmaster. Thane High School.

8. Mahajani, Vishnu Moreshwar (1851-1923). Author. Translator. Writer of 'Statistics of'British Indian Administration'.

9. Thane M.G. Pahila Varshik Report. 1893-94. p.1.

10. Thane is 21 miles (34 Kilometers(North-East of Bombay City.

11. Thane M.G. Pahila Varshik Report 1893-94. 1894.

12. Bhave, Vinayak Laxman (1871-1926). Businessmen by profession. Author, Scholar, Historian. Wrote 'Maharashtra Saraswati' (1897) - First history of Marathi literature. Editor Maharashtra Kavi Magazine.

13. Kirtikar, Kashoba Ranaechodadas (1849-1919). Lt. Col. Doctor. Poet. Botanist. Educated in England (1874-77). Professor, Grant Medical College, Military Service. Part in Afghan War. Worked in Thane Hospital. Retired 1904. Fellow, Bombay Univ. (1893). Wilson Philological Lecturer (1891). President, Marathi Sahitya Sammelan, Baroda 1909. President, Mumbai M.G. Anniversary (7) (4 Nov 1905).

14. Mumbai M.G. Vyavasthapak Mandal ani Niyamak Mandal. Sabhecha Itivritta (Minute Book) 10July 1898 - March 1919. (Hand-written).

15. Eleven founders -

Ambedas Gopal Puntambekar.
Anant Nilkanth Pitker
Mukund Balkrishna Gurjar
Ganesh Laxman Page
Shridhar Balaji Modak
Vinayak Balvant Joshi.
Shankar Hari Shejwalkar
Narayan Mahadeo Bakre
Narayan Krishna Gadre.
Gajanan Bhasker Vaidya
Vithal Vasudeo Tillu.

16. Puntambekar, Ambedas Gopal (187 ? - 6 Nov. 1947). Matric. Service in Bombay Municipality. One of the three founders of the Chhatrapati Vachanalaya. Social worker of Brahman Sabha, Mumbai.

17. Lele, R.R. Mumbai Marathi Granthasangrahalaya 1893-1973. 1973. pp.21-30.

18. Modak, Shridhar Balaji (- 25 Nov. 1902). Occupation - service. Went to Africa in 1899 for service.

19. Shejwalkar, Shankar Hari (1869-1911). Employed at the Bombay Municipality. Fond of reading books. Collected books by purchase from time to time which formed the nucleus of Chhatrapati Vachanalaya. He prompted Shri Puntambekar to start this library. Writes Prof. T.S.Shejwalkar, Historian, Son of S.H.Shejwalkar in his article Mumbai Marathi Granthasangrahalayache adya Samasthapak. In Shejwalkar, Prabhak Shankar. Nivedak Lekhasangraha. Col. M.V.Mote. 1977. pp.25-44.

20. Mumbai M.G. Prathama Varshaik Report August 1898-July 1899. 1899.

21. Pune M.G. Marathi Granthasangrahalayacha Ahevala (Shaka 1833/34 - 1840/41). Poona, Shaka 1841 (1919 A.D.).

22. Pavagi, Narayan alias Anasaheb Bhavanrao (1854-1934). Rao Saheb, Civil Servant for 30 years. Retired as Mamlatdar. Author of books on Indian languages and culture. Wrote the book Bharatiya Samrajya. 11 Volumes. Nationalist leader. President, Thane MG Varshik Samarambha (32). Mumbai MG Varshikotsava (11th) (12-9-1909).

23. Paradkar, Ramakrishna Battatraya (Descendent of Moropanta, Marathi Poet, Devotee of Lok Tilak. Published complete works of Moropanta (1912-16) Profession of Mysore Agarbatti Production.

24. Pune M.G. Marathi Granthalayacha Dvitiya Ahevala (Shaka 1841/42 - 1842/43 . pp.2-3.

25. Ibid. Appendix p.16.

26. Thane MG Annual reports.

27. Thane MG. Tevisave Varshik ahavala. 1915-16. p.4.

28. Mumbai MG. Annual reports.

29. Pune MG Dvitiya ahavala (Shake 1841/42 - 1842/43) (AD 1919/20 - 1920/21).

30. Pune MG. Shake 1859 (1937 A.D.) Raupya Mahotsava (Silver Jubilee). Nivedan. p.12.

31. This decision was taken in the meeting of the Niyamak Mandal held on 18 October 1906.

32. Mumbai M.G. Pandharava Varshik Vrittanta. 1912-13. 1915. p.52.

33. Library Miscellany. November 1912.

34. Thane M.G. Pannas Varshanche Vrittanta Suvarnamahotsava. May 1944. pp. 7-8.

35. Pune M.G. Panchama Ahavala. Shake 1852/53 - Shake 1853/54. p.4.

36 Aims and objects of the libraries have been mentioned in the First Annual Reports of these libraries besides the following documents - (1) Thane M.G. Niyama (Rules) 1894, p.1; (2) Mumbai M.G. - che Niyama. 1903 p.2.

37. Thane M.G. Dusara Varshik report 1894-95. p.10.

38. Ibid. Chautha Varshik report 1896-97. p.4.

39. Ibid. Chavisava varshik ahavala. 1916-17.

40. Ibid. Saheva varshik report 1898-99. p.4.

41. Mumbai M.G.Tisara varshik report. 1900-1901. p.16.

42. Thane M.G. Tisara varsha vrittanta. 1895-96. pp.8-9.

43. Mumbai M.G. Chautha varshik report. 1901-02. pp.7-8.

44. Mumbai Marathi Granthasangrahalayatil pustakachi yadi. (San 1924 Akher) 1926. First edition was issued in 1899. Small size 48 pages. Included 1500 books. Four supplements were issued upto 1912. ~~Classified catalogue. Under subject, arranged~~ alphabetically. subject catalogue

45. Thane M.G. Akarava varshik ahavala. 1903-04. p.9.

46. Mumbai M.G. Sabheche itivritta (Vyavasthapak Mandal ani Niyamak Mandal) 1898-1919 (Handwritten). Niyamak Mandal meeting 17 July 1910. Resolution 4.

47. Ibid. Niyamak Mandal Meeting 19 August 1909. Rule 5 amended. To be implemented from August 1910 as per resolution passed by the Vyavasthapak Mandal Meeting held on 6 February 1910.

48. 48. Niyamak Mandal meeting. 16 November 1918.

49. Thane, M.C. Dusara varshik report. 1894-95. 1895. p.10.

50. Mumbai M.C. Vyavasthapak Mandal meeting. 5 January 1913 Minute.

51. Thane M.C. Dusara varshik report 1894-95. 1895. p.8.

52. Mumbai M.C. Vyavasthapak mandal 27 Feb 1911 meeting, Minute Resolution No.6.

53. Thane M.C. Sahava Varshik report 1898-99. 1899. pp.6-7.

54. Ibid. Chautha varshik report 1896-97. 1898.p.7.

55. Mumbai M.C. Vyavasthapak Mandal 23 June 1913 meeting.minute.

56. Thane M.C. Navava Varshik report 1901-2, 1902. p.3.

57. Mumbai M.C. Niyamak Mandal meeting 3 November 1917. Resolution 5.

58. Thane M.C. Niyama (Rules). Edition 4. 1903. Mumbai M.C. Tevisava Varshik Ahavala. Aug.20 - Dec.1921.

59. The Library Miscellany. January - April 1919. pp.18-21.

60. Mumbai M.C. Tisara Varshik Report. Aug.1900-July 1901. pp.17-18. also Niyama 1903. Rule Nos.33,35,36 and 51.

61. Ibid. Niyama (Rules) 1903. Rule 26.

62. Ibid. Tevisava Varshik Ahavala. Aug.1920-Dec.1921.

63. Oak, Vinayak Kondadev. Maharashtra Granthasangraha, Bombay. Nirnayasagar 1897. 12 p. (Granthasangrahache whavet va Granthalayache mahattva. Thane M.C. Varshik Samarambha. 4th June 1897. Bhashan).
Mahajani, Vishnu Moreshwar. Granthasangrahalaya, Bombay. Induprakash Press, 1907. 24 p. (Mumbai MC - Varshik Samarambha (9th)(1907) Bhashan).

64. Pitke, Anant Nilkanth.
Govt. servant. Correspondent of the Kesari (Poona). News and reports about events in Bombay reported verbatim under the pseudonym 'Anant'. Wrote 3 books. Theosophist. Worker of the Brahmen Sabha (Bombay). In contact with Lok Tilak.

65. Gadre, Narayan Krishna alias Nana Gadre (died 14-7-1933).

66. Bakre, Narayan Krishna (Died 23 July 1943).

67. Bhatavadekar, Dr. Sir Bhalchandra Krishna (Died 1922). Licenciate of Medicine. Knight. Author of 5 books.

68. Vaidya, Gajanan Bhaskar (Died 1921). Theosophist. Editor. Balabodha magazine. Propogated for spread of Female Education. Hindu Missionary.

69. Kelkar, Narasimha Chintaman (1872-1947). Sahita Samrat. Politician. Journalist. Editor, the Kesari, The Sahyadri.

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76. Date, Shankar Ganesh, Ed. Marathi Granths Suchi (1800-1937). 1943. p.25.

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CHAPTER - 7

Free Reading Rooms and Libraries

All the libraries studied so far were subscription libraries and only those people who had an ability to pay the subscription were benefitted from these libraries. As the subscribers were few, the library movement was restricted to the few people and did not become a mass movement.

But a number of educated people who were unable to pay the subscription, even at a cheaper rate, were denied the use of libraries and books therein. For example, the students in schools and colleges, the newly educated people and the low income groups could not get any benefit from these subscription libraries.

With the establishment of Free Reading rooms and libraries, a new era was opened in the history of library development in the Western Maharashtra, thereby opening the doors of the libraries and the knowledge therein, to the masses, to all groups of the society without any barrier of caste, language or income and thus becoming in a true sense the 'People's University'.

The First Attempt

The first attempt to give library service free of any charge to people seems to have been made at Alibag. The

library was supported entirely by Bhau Saheb Biwalkar[1] and was open to the public free of charge. During 1867-68, there were 104 books in the library and an amount of Rs.210/- was spent for the library[2]. This library seems to have been closed later on.

People's Free Reading Rooms and Library, Bombay[3]

This library was established in Bombay in 1891 by the generosity of its donor, the late Mr. Damodar Gordhandas Sukhadwala and was the first of its kind in the city of Bombay where both the Reading Room and Library were open to the public without any distinction of caste, creed or sex. The inaugural ceremony was done at the house owned by Mr. Damodar G. Sukhadwala at Manhordas Street, Fort, Bombay. It was presided by the late Mr. Justice K.T.Telang, who along with the Hon'ble Mr.P.M.Mehta, Sorabji Shapurji Bengalee, D. E. Wacha, K.R.Cama and other well-known gentlemen evinced the greatest pleasure and interest in its welfare.

With a view to its permanent prosperity, the generous donor in 1898 set apart an immovable property at Manhordas street of the value of Rs. 40,000 in Trust - the income under its provisions being entirely devoted to the maintenance of the library. The first Indenture of the Trust was made on 23rd of May 1898 with the first Board of following Trustees - Damodar Gordhandas Sukhadwalla, Dinshaw Edulji Wacha, Kavasji Merwanji Shroff, Hassambhai Vishram, Narayan Ganesh Chandavarkar

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and Narendas Purshotamdas. Sir D. E. Wacha was appointed its first Chairman and he worked till his death on 18-2-1936.

Seth Damodar Sukhadwala, the founder died on 11-11-1913 leaving a Will, the Executors of which, after disposing of several items, transferred the residuary legacy of three properties, one at Hornby Road, Second a Ginning Factory at Bharda and third a bungalow at Mahabaleshwar, the second and third properties were subsequently sold off and the amount realised thereby was invested in Government papers. The first named property is still in the possession of the library.

Out of the income of the rents and interests on Securities and Shares, the library is fully maintained and no grants are received either from the Government or from the Municipality.

Both the Reading Room and Library are located on the first floor of the Sukhadwalla Building, Hornby Road.

In 1912, average daily attendance in the Reading Room was 300, 9859 books were circulated out of which 4824 were in English language and 5035 in Gujarati language. Receipts amounted to Rs.2594 and expenditure of Rs.2854 was incurred. The deficit was made good by Mr. Sukhadwala. He also provided a more spacious building[4].

The Library Miscellany commented on this report as follows -

"Daily average circulation (27) is very poor indeed. The authorities should investigate why it is so[5].

The book collection in the library increased each year and reached to about 4000 volumes[6] in 1925 and 5000[7] in 1927.

The Dhobi Talao Branch

The Bombay NativeGeneral Library,founded in 1845 and accommodated in the Framji Cowasji Institute since 1865 and the N.M.Wadia General Library established in 1915, were amalgamated in 1920. Later on in the year 1929, some negotiations commenced between the Trustees of the People's Free Reading Room and Library and the Managing Committee of the N.M.Wadia General Library. Subsequently Trustees of the Framji Cowasji Institute also participated in these negotiations. Finally as a result of a Consent Degree of the High Court, the whole management of the N.M.Wadia General Library was handed over to the People's Free Reading Room and Library in July 1930. It is now renamed as the Dhobi Talao Branch of the People's Free Reading Room and Library.

It is located on the ground floor of the newly built Framji Cowasji Institute Building at Dhobitalao, free of rent under the High Court Decree. The library is maintained from the General Funds of the People's Free Reading Room and Library. However a donation of Rs.17,500 in Government Papers has been made by the retired Managing Committee of the

S.K.Wadia Library, ear-marked for the pufchase of books out of its interest only for the Dhobitalao Branch. Centenary of this library was celebrated in 1946[9].

Presently both the Reading Room and Library are open to all the public without the distinction of caste, creed or sex. Books are lent to the readers for home-reading against a deposit of Rs.10 per book.

The Baroda Library Movement

Another phase in the development of free reading rooms and libraries started with the launching of a public library movement in Baroda State. The Maharaja of Baroda, Sayajirao Gaikwad was the first ruler in India to introduce free and compulsory primary education into his state and also the pioneer of the popular library movement in this country, the Baroda Raj having been the first to establish a system of free state aided libraries throughout its territories.[10]

The Maharaja in his frequent travels abroad had been impressed by the valuable work done by free libraries in the countries of Europe and America, and with the important part which such institutions played in the social, educational and intellectual life of those countries. He determined, therefore, to bestow on his own subjects some of these benefits which the people of the West so freely enjoyed. With this object in view the library department was established in 1910 and in order that the libraries of his State might be

conducted on the most approved upto-date methods, the Maharaja appointed an organiser of the Department, an American Expert Mr. Borden in 1910. Mr. Borden during his service upto 1913 founded the Central Library at Baroda, planned and set on foot a system of state-aided libraries and reading rooms in the mofussil towns and villages, organised travelling libraries and established the first library school which had ever been recognised in India. The first principle which the Maharaja insisted upon when planning his library campaign was that all the libraries coming under the scheme should be entirely free to all persons, the young and the old, the rich and the poor, irrespective of caste or creed.[11]

In this scheme, the Central Library established at Baroda was maintained solely by the Government with a lending section, a newspapers and periodical room, a children and ladies section, to serve the city readers. While the moffusil people were served by the County Branch, town and village library section, travelling library section and visual instruction section. Besides these schemes, following activities also were carried out - (1) Library training course, (2) Librarians Club, (3) Library Miscellany - a periodical devoted to the cause of libfaries.

Free Public Libraries of the Social Service League, Bombay.

Inspired by reading an account of the working of the Free Public Libraries in Baroda State, the Social Service

League[12] started free travelling libraries in Bombay with the object to create among the masses, a taste for reading books on useful and healthy subjects. Indirectly the work was likely to give an opportunity to the social workers to see the social condition of masses, especially the mill workers and depressed classes. Further, it was suggested that the library centres will ultimately be developed into centres useful for other purposes such as giving lectures along with the help of magic-lantern shows for mass education etc.[13]

The Travelling Libraries

A set of 50 books formed a library consisting of about 25 books on light literature, 10 books on History and Biography, 10 books on essays, travels and other subjects and 5 books on religion and mythology.

These books were sent in steel boxes along with a list of the books, a copy of rules for the guidance of the readers and librarians, a signboard and report-cards. The librarians were requested to furnish weekly reports about the number of books issued, and the number of readers.

These libraries were circulated among the centres established for this purpose in various areas in the Bombay city.

Each travelling library was kept at one centre for two months. Thereafter, the old one was substituted by a new

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one and was removed to another centre. Each centre was managed by a Social worker coming from that area.

The Foundation and Progress

On 23rd June 1912 the work of travelling libraries was started. From 23rd June 1912 to 15th August 1912, 450 Marathi and 250 Gujarati books were collected by way of donations from the managers of Aryabhushan Press (Poona), The Dnyanaprakash (Poona), the Induprakash Press (Bombay) and some other friends of the movement.

Mr. Damodardas Govardhandas Sukhadwala, after hearing of the progress made, donated Rs.2000 to start the work on a modest scale. From this amount, books worth Rs.1325 (1257 Marathi books of Rs.700 and 638 Gujarati books of Rs.625) were purchased and Rs.416 were spent for purchasing 80 boxes, a cupboard, 70 boards, locks and for printing and other incidental expenses. Thus by the end of 15 August 1912, 2100 Marathi and 1100 Gujarati books were collected and put into circulation.

The Library Centres

There were centres both for the Marathi and Gujarati people. 28 Marathi and 19 Gujarati centres were established during this period. Out of the Marathi libraries, 12 were kept with the Depressed class people and 16 with other Backward classes. Out of the Gujarati libraries, 10 were with the Depressed class people, 2 with other backward classes and 5 with the advanced classes and 2 with poor classes among the

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Upto 12 Sept. 1912, 43 centres (27 Marathi and 16 Gujarati) were established. The number of Marathi Centres is more in Dalit and Backward classes than the Gujarati Centres because as compared with Gujarati people, Marathi people formed the majority of working class people in Bombay. 1077 readers (494 Marathi and 583 Gujarati) took advantage of the libraries. Average number of readers for Marathi Centre was 18 while t at of Gujarati Centres was 36. Total number of books issued was 2817. The number of readers in Gujarati Centres doubled the number of readers in Marathi Centres because of the fact that 5 Gujarati centres were for the readers from the advanced classes who could have more leisure time than those coming from the working classes.

Progress from 13 Sept 1912 to 15 Feb 1913.[14]

Number of Marathi books increased from 2100 to 2600 and Gujarati from 1100 to 1800 and the total number from 3200 to 4400. The number of travelling libraries in the form of book-boxes circulated among the Centres increased from 47 to 77 (44 Marathi and 33 Gujarati).

The number of women in any community is always quite considerable. However, there were no special library facilities for women in Bombay. The Bombay Social Service League, therefore, started special libraries for middle class women, 13 libraries for women (7 Gujarati and 6 Marathi) were established. Two libraries for women were kept in hospitals and 9 in different chawls, in charge of women volunteers.

This progress could be done only because of the donation of Rs.10,000 given by Mr. Damodardas Sukhadwala for extension of the League's work in other directions.

Librarian's Club[15]

All these libraries/centres were managed by enthusiastic social workers, men and women belonging to Marathi and Gujarati communities. They had no special training in librarianship. With the idea of bringing together the persons who were in charge of the travelling libraries, the Inspectors of libraries, and other persons interested in the management, a Librarian's club was started on 15 Sept. 1912. In the meetings of the club, the work that had been done was reviewed, experiences were shared, difficulties were discussed and ways were found for the efficient working of these institutions. 1st meeting of the club was held on 15 Sept.1912 and was attended by 20 persons.

This is for the first time in Western Maharashtra that librarians meaning thereby the persons managing the libraries had formed their club to discuss their problems. At Baroda, the Baroda Central Library Club was started in 1912 to discuss library problems. This might have prompted the Bombay Library workers to start the club in Bombay.

The social workers undertook a programme of reading of books. In 1912 these programmes were arranged on 12 Gujarati centres and 16 Marathi centres for a period of 4 weeks (Gujarati Centres) to 6 weeks (Marathi Centres [16]. This type of

programme is very useful for those who cannot read and to working class people who may not read books after the day's hard work. This activity is very important from the point that if people do not go to library, the library books should go to the people to serve the third law of Library Science - Every Reader shall get his/her book.

Hospital Libraries

Libraries were established in Hospitals also on the suggestion of Mr. Sukhadawala. Six Libraries were established in 1915, in (1) Cama, (2) Rukmini, and (3) Gokuldas Tejpal hospitals. These were managed by Nurses and Assistant Surgeons in the hospitals.

Progress upto 1915.[17]

Number of books possessed by these library centres at the end of 1913 was 4809 (2880 Marathi and 1929 Gujarati). Number of books at the end of 1914 increased to 6604 (3538 Marathi and ~~1329~~ 3066 Gujarati), i.e. number of books added was 1795 (658 Marathi and 1137 Gujarati). Last year number of libraries were 85 (48 Marathi and 37 Gujarati), it went upto 105 (57 Marathi and 48 Gujarati). These 105 boxes were circulated among 161 centres (83 Marathi and 78 Gujarati). Out of the 161 centres, women managed 27 centres (11 Marathi and 16 Gujarati). Number of readers at all centres came up to 7480 (2817 Marathi and 4663 Gujarati). Among the readers there were 1832 women (459 Marathi)and 1373 Gujarati). The number of readers among the depressed classes was 699 (256 Marathi and 443 Gujarati).

Reading for the benefit of the illiterate people was done at 26 centres (16 Marathi and 10 Gujarati). Total number of readings was 496 (401 Marathi and 95 Gujarati). Number of people who took advantage of this programme was 3575 (2261 Marathi and 1314 Gujarati).

Library Finance and Management

These libraries were free to the public. Expenditure on transport of the libraries to various centres was borne by the Social Service League in the beginning. However this expenditure had to be borne by the borrowers later on. Most of the books were collected by way of donations. Mr. Sukhadwala, a philanthroper in Bombay gave donations of Rs.5000 in 1912 and 10,000 in 1913 for this noble cause. Out of this donation, books worth Rs.700 + 625 (1257 Marathi and 638 Gujarati) were purchased in 1912. All other work was done by social workers without any payment. There were good number of women social workers who devoted their time to this educational activity.

Efforts were made to start library service for the labouring classes of different mills in Bombay. Accordingly Libraries were started in the Currimbhai Ibrahim Workmen's Institute (1918), Tata Sons Workamen's Institute (1918). These libraries were sponsored and financed by the mill owners and run by the Social Service League giving free service to the labourers working in the mills. These contained some newspapers, weeklies and monthlies and a collection of books. During the quarter ending November 1920, the work that was done[18] in these libraries can be summarised as follows.

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In Curimbhoy Ibrahim Workmen's Institute, Reading room and Library - 529 members were on roll. Daily average attendance was 21. 912 books were issued for homelending and 150 books were issued in the library hall.

At the Reading Room and Library of the Tata Sons, Workmen's Institute, 238 members were on the roll and 2620 books were issued with daily average attendance of 40. 3632 readers took advantage of the reading room.

The contribution

Due to establishment of cotton mills and other factories in Bombay, population of Industrial workers increased in Bombay. These workers had poor income and were backward in education. The Social Service League, therefore, concentrated its activities for educating these people by giving them free library service. Majority of the workers were illiterate. Therefore the programme of reading of books to the illiterate was undertaken. Free libraries were started for the Depressed classes also. Besides these, library service was extended to members of the Social Service League on payment of small subscription. Attention was paid to extend library service for women also.

All these attempts and activities of the Social Service League focus on the direction and means for spreading the library movement specially among the masses and weaker sections of the society which were neglected so far.

Other Free Libraries in Bombay

Gujarati Hindu Stree Mandali's Mophat Vachanalaya and Pustakalaya was established in the building of the Servants of India Society. Books worth Rs.105 were received as a gift from the Post Narmadashankar Memorial Fund. Some other well-wishers[19] also had presented some books.

Dadabhai Naoroji Dharmartha Library and Vachanalaya was maintained with the assistance of Rs.200 per month from Mr.N.M. Wadia Trust. It was receiving 3 English and 2 Marathi newspapers and magazines on payment of subscription and 4 English and 4 Marathi newspapers and magazines were received gratis.[20]

Following the example of Baroda State, the Telugu Library, Bombay also decided to extend facilities free of charge to the people[21].

Free Reading Rooms and Libraries in Poona

Free reading rooms were started in Poona also on an increasing scale during this period.

Parvati Mophat Vachanalaya[22]

Founded in 1912, may be treated as the First free public library in Poona. It was established by Shri V.G.Ketkar[23] Headmaster and one of the promoters of the Anath Vidyarthi Griha, a school for educating orphans. Newspapers and magazines were sent by the editors of newspapers and magazines, and individuals for use of these students and these materials were

made available to public at large along with the students. Shrimati Ramabai Bhide gave some rooms in her house free to this library. As many people used to go to Parvati Hill[24] in the morning, this library on their way proved useful to these people also.

Phadake Free Reading Room[25] - may be the second of its kind established in Poona. Its first anniversary[26] was celebrated on 1st February 1913 under the Presidentship of Shri Nanasaheb Pavagi[27]. It was provided free accommodation in the house of Shri Narahar Gangadhar Phadake[28], Pensioner subjudge. M.M. D.V. Potdar[29], Sardar Khanderao Mehendale[30] and L.R.Phadnis[31] took leading part in the work of this library. Later on Shri L.R. Phadnis and other youths in Poona started Shriram Mophat Vachanalaya in 1913 and the Phadake Free Reading Room was merged with this reading room[32].

In 1914, Lokamanya Tilak was released from Mandalay and started working in Poona and political tensions were released to some extent. At the same time, the World War I started and many people were anxious to read news about the War. These events accelerated the activity of establishment of Free Reading Rooms and received momentum during this period.

Mophat Vachanalaya Mandal[33] - For establishing new free reading rooms and strengthening the existing free reading rooms

a Free Reading Rooms Guild, was established by Shri L.R.Phadnis, Sardar Khanderao Chintaman Mehendale and Datto Aman Potdar.

It took over the management of Shri Ram Mophat Vachanalaya established by L.R.Phadnis and started branch reading rooms in Shukrawar Peth. However, the branch in Shukrawar Peth had to be closed down for want of adequate support from the people. Its first anniversary was celebrated on 31 March 1915[34].

Later on the following important Free Reading Rooms were established.

1. Shri M.N.Joshi[35] started a Free Reading Room in the memory of Gopal Krishna Gokhale[36] in 1915 at his residence in Kasba Peth by keeping the newspapers and magazines subscribed by him for the use of the public.

2. Shri V.M.Bhuskute[37] established the Maharashtra Mophat Vachanalaya[38] with Shri S.G.Lawate[39], a nationalist leader belonging to Medical Profession, as the President.

3. Shri Santa Mophat Vachan Mandir[40] was started in Ambarkhana Bag for the use of workers and backward classes and was kept open at night from 8.30 p.m.to 9.30 p.m.

4. Shri Krishna Mophat Vachanalaya[41] - was established in the Camp area by young students in 1918. It was first named Young Men's library and free reading room.

5. Shetopayogi Granthasangraha[42] was started by Shri N.B.Parulekar[43], a college student and later an eminent

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journalist, for the use of school and college students in the vicinity of Aneth Vidyarthi Grihe. 1500 books were collected.

6. Shri Ganesh Mophat Vachanalaya[44] started working since 1918 with the efforts of Shri Haribhau Deshpande[45].

In 1921, following free reading rooms were in working condition in Poona - a) Shanwar Peth : Maharashtra, Sahakari, Lok Tilak, b) Sadashiv Peth : Sriram, Haridas, Arya, Aneth Vidyarthi Grihe, c) Shukrawar Peth : Jaina Mophat Vachanalaya, d) Kasba Peth : Shri Ganesh, and e) Camp : Shrikrishna. Representatives of these Free Reading Rooms were present at the First Free Reading Rooms and Libraries Conference held in Poona in 1921[46].

Foundation of Libraries

Which factors prompted the foundation of these libraries, on so large a scale, during this period needs consideration. Firstly, it may be observed that all these libraries had been started mostly by young men and students. Shri L.R.Phadnis , D.V.Potdar, V.M.Bhuskute, M.M.Joshi, N.B.Parulekar, Haribhau Deshpande were all young men. Aims of founding of these Reading Rooms, as enumerated in the annual reports of these libraries, were mainly to create a taste for reading among the students and to promote educative activities. This was to assist the programme of National Education (one of the four principles enunciated by Lok. Tilak) launched at that time and thus to do some social work useful for the promotion of freedom struggle started at that time.

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Government had imposed restrictions on the registered public libraries. Newspapers and magazines of nationalistic attitude such as the Kesari, the Mahratta were not allowed to be preserved in these libraries. But people wanted to read these newspapers and magazines. It was not possible for many people to subscribe to these periodicals due to political situation. The main objective behind the Parvati Mophat Vachanalaya started by V.G.Ketkar was to provide freely such newspapers and magazines and to develop the nationalistic attitude.

These young men had received encouragement and assistance from the leaders and eminent men of nationalistic attitude like Shri Nanasaheb Pavagi, V.G.Ketkar, Sardar Abasaheb Mujumdar[48], Vaidya S.G.Lawate, Sardar Khanderao Mahandale, D.V.Gokhale[49] of the Democratic Party and journalists J.S.Karandikar [50] and N.C.Kelkar[51]. Lok. Tilak was a constant source of inspiration to all these. He visited some of these libraries and encouraged the organisers.

Reading Materials and the use of the Libraries

Newspapers, weeklies, monthlies, quarterlies constituted the reading materials of these Reading rooms. These were in Marathi as well as in English and Hindi. Nationalistic magazines and newspapers which were banned for being preserved in registered or aided libraries, were also available in these reading rooms. This proved an important attraction to their readers. Reading materials in these libraries were received

mostly by way of donations e.g. some individuals subscribed to certain newspapers and magazines for their private use but donated these to the libraries. The Kesari, The Mahratta, The Dnyanaprakash, newspapers published in Poona, received copies of newspapers and magazines published elsewhere in India on exchange basis. These were donated to the free reading rooms when their work was over. Few magazines were subscribed.

Some libraries had collected books. For example the Maharashtra Mophat Vachanalaya, Shri Ganesh Mophat Vachanalaya has good collection of books which were available for reading in the premises of the library. Majority of the books were collected by way of donations.

As these libraries were free to the public, these were attended by a number of readers. Daily attendance at some free reading rooms was upto 150 to 200. Students and young people constituted the majority of readers. Attendance in libraries in Sadashiv, Shaniwar Paths was more than that in the libraries in Shukrawar Peth and Kasba Peth.

Library Finance

Though most of the reading materials and other equipment were obtained gratis, these libraries required funds for their organisation and management. Therefore donations in cash and in kind were collected by these libraries.

Most of the work of the library was done enthusiastically by volunteers (Swayamsevaks) who collected donations and managed

the affairs of the library without any kind of payment or honorarium for their work. The volunteers who were collecting alms (भिक्षा) twice a week for the library were treated as members of the First Rank of the Library by the Maharashtra Mophat Vachanalaya[52]. These volunteers moved in the public, collected foodgrains, money for the library as alms for the library, twice a week. They used to sing verses explaining the aims and objects of the library while moving in the public. The foodgrains were sold. Thus the volunteers of the Maharashtra Mophat Vachanalaya collected Rs.128 and Rs.800 during the years 1915 and 1916 respectively[53]. This method of collecting alms had its origin in the practice followed by Balukaka Kanitkar[54] while collecting donations for Paisa Fund[55].

Even after carrying on the work of the library voluntarily and collecting reading materials, furniture, accommodation etc. by way of donations, it was difficult to manage the affairs of the library. Therefore, charity performances of Marathi Drama Companies were obtained in aid of the library. This aid helped the libraries to finance their activities.

Other activities

Shriram Mophat Vachanalaya started library service for ladies on Sundays between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m.[56] Mahatma Gandhi and Lok Tilak visited this section in 1918 and were pleased by this activity.[57] Shri Ram Mophat Vachanalaya, Parvati Mophat Vachanalaya organised a series of lectures on various topics

by eminent educationists and scholars. Indian Political leaders at that time, while on visit to Poona, were invited and given a reception by these libraries from time to time. All these libraries arranged a Pansuperi Function to Lok Tilak in Dec.1919 in the Kirloskar Theatre on his departure to England for representing the cause of Indian Freedom.

Anniversaries of Libraries were celebrated enthusiastically. Scholars and leaders were invited to preside over the function as was done by libraries at Thana and Bombay. Annual report of the library was presented and lectures of eminent men were also organised on this occasion.

Free Reading Rooms and Libraries at other towns

Taking inspiration from Poona and Bombay, the wave of establishing free reading rooms and libraries spread over to various towns in the Western Maharashtra.

At Nasik, Nyayamurthi Ranade Mophat Vachanalaya[59] was started in 1907 with liberal support of Shet Damodardas Dahyabhai and Tapidas Dahyabhai in the Ketkar Nagar Bhavan[60] (Town Hall). Corner stone of this Ketkar Nagar Bhavan was laid down by Justice M.G.Ranade on 22 April 1900. Another free library[61] was established at Nasik in memory of late Mrs. Satyabhamabai Ranade[62] on 7 July 1918 at the hands of D.V.Potdar. It was managed by Shri K.M.Ranade[63], volunteer of Seva Fund in Nasik. Mophat Vachanalaya[64,64] was started at Wai in 1913

by enthusiastic youth like K.G.Phide[65] and others. Shri Kshetra Tuljapur Vividh Granth Mophat Vachanalaya[66] (1917). At Sangli Vyapari Mophat Vachanalaya[67] was started in 1917. Corner-stone of the library was laid down by Mahatma Gandhi in November 1920.

After the death of Lokamanya Tilak, about 30 libraries and free reading rooms were established in Maharashtra in memory of Lok Tilak upto 1924[69].

Free Public Library movement made impact on the working of the subscription libraries also. Some of the subscription libraries declared their reading rooms free to the people. For example Malegaon Library declared the Reading Room free of charge in 1905, Kalyan (1915).

After independence the Government of Bombay also laid down a condition while giving grants to public libraries that the reading within the premises of the library - books and newspapers-be free to all the people.

Conference of Free Reading Rooms and the Foundation of a Library Association.

Many Free Reading Rooms were working in Poona. An effort was therefore made to bring together office-bearers of all these Free Reading Rooms and to discuss their common problems and difficulties by holding a conference in Poona on 8 April 1919[72] in the premises of Bhalopayogi Granthasangraha on the Parvati

Road under the Presidentship of Shri V.G. Limaye[73]. This was for the first time that office-bearers of Free Reading Rooms had come together, an awakening for cooperative effort, a first step towards forming a library association.

As a result of this gathering of Free reading rooms, the volunteers and managers of free reading rooms started coming together. On behalf of these libraries, Ganesh Festival was celebrated since 1919 which gave them an opportunity for cooperation among their reading rooms e.g. the Maharashtra Mophat Vachanalaya started a book-selling shop[74] for the convenience of these libraries. These volunteers prepared a list of Free Reading Rooms and collected statistics. The need to organise these reading rooms was felt. This thought got a momentum at the time of Maharashtra Provincial Conference of Indian National Congress held at Bassein in 1921 where these volunteers had gathered. There they decided to hold a conference of Free reading rooms and libraries in Maharashtra. Accordingly a Conference of Free Reading Rooms and Libraries in Maharashtra (The Maharashtra Free Readi g Rooms and Libraries Conference)[75] was held at Poona on 18 and 19th June 1921 under the Presidentship of Mr.M.R.Jayakar[76]. Sardar G.N.Mujumdar was the Chairman of the Reception Committee. Among those present were Sardar Khanderao Mehendale, Mr.C.V.Vaidya[77], Prof.S.M.Paranjape[78] Prof. D.V.Potdar and others. The Baroda State Libraries were represented by Mr.Amin, Assistant Curator of Libraries, Baroda State. Nearly Ninety representatives of Free Reading Rooms

and Libraries of different places in Maharashtra attended this first conference. There have been more than two hundred and fifty (250) Free Reading Rooms and Libraries that were in working condition in the whole of Maharashtra. About 200 of them had sent in their reports before the session of the conference.

Six Resolutions were passed by this conference[79]. First Resolution paid homage to the memory of Lokamanya Tilak and Mr.J.S.Kudalkar, the Curatory of State Libraries, Baroda. Second Resolution proposed to institute a central organisation for bringing together Free Reading Rooms and Libraries in Maharashtra. A committee consisting of Messrs N.G.Kelkar, B.S.Kamat[80], M.R.Jayakar, D.V.Potdar, Dr.Phatak[81] and others was appointed by the conference to draft the constitution and rules of the central organisation. Third resolution requested the local boards and municipalities, District Congress Committees and other local public bodies to help free libraries by starting fresh ones and extending help towards those in working condition. Fourth resolution directed the organisers of Free Reading Rooms and Libraries in towns and villages to move amongst the illiterate masses and diffuse knowledge and information by reading out to them papers and useful books. Fifth resolution requested the editors and publishers of books and magazines, to give gratis or at some concession rates their publications to the free libraries affiliated to the Library Association. The last resolution requested the municipalities and local bodies to

organise free libraries and reading rooms for the use of boys and especially girls below 12 years.

In accordance with the 2nd resolution, the constitution and rules of the central organisation were drafted by the Committee appointed for this purpose and the Maharashtra Free Reading Rooms and Libraries Association was formed with the following objectives: to spread the movement of free libraries by starting new ones and helping the existing ones by various means, to institute a Model Free Library and Reading Room for Maharashtra and to organise Free Reading Rooms and Libfaries in Maharashtra. Any person or Free Reading Rooms and library can become member of the Association by paying Rs.100 or more as Patron, Rs.25 or more as Donors, Rs.5 to Rs.10 annual subscription as subscriber and Re.one as yearly subscription as ordinary member. 199 Libraries and free reading rooms were enrolled as members in 1921.[82]

Mr.N.C.Kelkar (Poona) was elected as President, Mr.N.R. Jayakar (Bombay), Hon'ble Mr.P.S.Kamat (Poona), Mr.B.G.Khaparde[83] (Amaraoti) were elected as Vice Presidents and Sardar G.K. Majumdar was elected as the Treasurer. Second session of the Maharashtra Vachanalaya Parishad was held on 22, 23 May 1926 at Poona under the presidentship of Justice Keshavrao Koratkar of Hyderabad.

Thus a new phase in the history of public library movement began in 1921 with the foundation of a Library

Association. The public libraries in Maharashtra got a corporate personality and a beginning was made to promote the library movement collectively.

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23. Katkar, Vishnu Gangadhar alias Dadasaheb (1887-1950) Teacher. Founder and Head, the Anath Vidyarthi Griha, Poona 1909-50. Nationalist. Social Worker.

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28. Phadake, Narahar Gadadhar (- 1918). Pensioner Subjudge. Nanasaheb.

29. Potdar, Datto Waman (1890 -). Mahamahopadhyaya. Historian. Author. B.A. (1910). Teacher and Headmaster, ANV High School, Poona, Professor, S.P.College (Retired 1935). Secretary, Bharat Itihaas Samshodhak Mandal, Pune, 25 years. President, Indian History Congress, Marathi Sahitya Sammelan etc.

30. Mehendale, Khanderao Chintaman urphe Tatyasaheb (1869-1934) B.A. (1892). Sardar. Foundary Secretary, Bharat Itihaas Samshodhak Mandal, Poona 1910-1934. Vice President. Donated 736 books to BISM after death. Mumbai M.G. Anniversary (23)(1922). President.

31. Phadnis, Lakshman Ramchandra (Bachelor. Arrived at Poona 1911 from M.P. Social worker. Contacts with leaders of all parties.

32. Shriram Mophat Vachanalaya, Tritiya Vrittanta, Shake 1838-1839 (i.e. 1916-1917). Poona 1917.

33. Mophat Vachanalaya Mandal, Pune, Library Miscellany 2(3-4) Feb-May 1914. p.60.

34 Mophat Vachanalaya Mandal, Pune, Ahaval Shake 1836/37, San 1915. Poona. 1915.

35. Joshi, Manohar Narayan. Residence 538 Kasba Peth, Poona,

36. Kai Na. Gopal Krishna Gokhale yancha smarnarthe Mophat Vachanalaya, Pune. Prathama Varshik Vrittanta. Shake 1838 (12 Apr. 1916). Poona. 1916.

37. Bhuskute, Vinayakrao Mahadeo (1889-1954). Service in the Kesari Office. Work in Democratic Party. Nationalist Volunteer. Took part in Mulshi Satyagraha. Book written - Biographies of Marx, Lenin, Stalin, V.N.Chiplunkar. Translations.

38. Maharashtra Mophat Vachanalaya. Prathama Itivritta (17 June 1915 to 31 March 1917). Poona. V.M.Bhuskute and S.P.Patwardhan, Shake 1838 (i.e. 1916).

39. Lawate, Shankarrao Ganesh alias Bhausaheb (1870-1948). B.A. (1908). Matric (1890). Teacher. Manager, Preparatory classes 1892-1905. Medical Profession, Ayurveda system. Follower firstly of Gopal Krishna Gokhale and later on of Lok Tilak. Editorial staff of Kesari 1904-06. Worked for prohibition from 1908. Member, Poona Municipality 1915-1926. Vice-President, 1924. Editor, Lokasangraha (Newspaper) 1920-23. Organiser, Pune Vidyarthi Griha, 1910-1920.

40. Shri Santa Mophat Vachan Mandir, Library Miscellany, 3 (3-4), July-Oct. 1915. p.32.

41. Shrikrishna Mophat Vachanalaya, Pune (Pahilya Varshacha Chhapil Ahaval) Library Miscellany, 6 (3-4), July-Oct. 1919. p.16.

42. Shelopayogi Granthasangraha, Pune, Chitramayagat, Janury 1921, p.32. also
Parulekar, N.B. Nirope Ghata (Autobiography), 1978. p.58.

43. Parulekar, Dr.Narayan Bhikaji (1898-1973). Journalism Education in USA (Columbia), Ph.D. Founder and Editor, The Sakal, daily newspaper, Poona (1931-1973).

44. Shri Ganesh Mophat Vachanalaya, Talegaon Dabhade, Dist. Poona 1919-1969. A.D. Suvarnamahotsava Smaranika.

45. Deshpande, Haribhau Bhalchandra (1902 -) Service in Poona Municipality. Managed the library upto 1958 in Poona. After retirement, transferred the library to Talegaon Dabhade, a town about 18 miles away from Poona. Awarded 'Granthalaya Bhushan' (1973) by the Maharashtra State Library Conference.

46. The Maharashtra Free Libraries Association. Constitution and Rules together with the brief report of the First Maharashtra Free Reading Rooms and Libraries Conference, Poona (1921). pp.10,13.

47. Gangal, Balkrishna Damodar, op.cit. p.6.

48. Mujumdar, Gangadhar Narayanrao alias Abasaheb (1886-) CIE, First Class Sardar. Historian. Music Expert and Social worker. Secretary, Bharat Itihasa Samshodhak Mandal, 1922-46.

49. Gokhale, Damodar Vishwanath (1885-1962). B.A. LL.B. Journalist. Editorial staff of the Kesari. Editor the Mahratta 1918-1930. Democratic Swarajya Party. Treasurer. Member, Poona District Congress Committee, Bombay Provincial Congress Committee since 1918.

50. Karandikar, Janardhan Sakharam (1875-1959). Journalist. Research Scholar, B.A. (1897). LL.B.(1903). Teacher and Headmaster, Samartha Vidyalaya (1907) Talegaon Dabhade. A school of National Education. Editor Samartha. Asstt. Editor Granthamala. Entered Kesari Mahratta Institution, 1912. Asst. Editor, Kesari 1915-Trustee, Kesari Mahratta Institution, 1937-59.

51. Kelkar, Narasimha Chintaman (1872-1947). B.A.LL.B. Sahitya Samrat. Journalist, Author, Political leader. Colleague of Lok Tilak. Editor The Kesari and the Mahratta. President, Swarajya Party (1923). Member Legislative Council.

52. Maharashtra Mophat Vachanalaya. Prathama itivritta (13 June 1915 - 31 March 1917). p.36.

53. Ibid. pp.13. 32.

54. Kanitkar, Gajanan Narayan alias Balukaka (1886-1959). B.A. (1909). Founded students' home (1909). Started 'HindemateMandir'. Village uplift work in Chinchwad, near Poona. Main organiser of Mulshi Satyagraha 1920-21. Wrote books, article. Orator.

55. Paisa Fund. Fund raised to start industries for the promotion of Swadeshi, the people contributing one paisa each by allthe people as capital for these industries in 1899. One Glass works was started at Talegaon from this fund. Shri Ranade collected about Rs.50000/- for this fund

56. Shri Ram Mophat Vachanalaya, Tritiya Varshik Vrittanta, Shake 1838-39. p.2.

57. Kesari, 6 August 1918 (Lok Tilak Visit on 3 Aug 1918). Kesari 18 June 1919 (Mahatma Gandhi Visit).

58. Kesari. Dec. 1919. Also in Shri Ganesh Mophat Vachanalaya. San 1919 te San 1969. Suvarna Mahotsava Smarenika p.1.

59. Ketkar, S.K. Granthapremisathi Vachakanchi patre. (Letter to the Editor). Kesari. 1975. p.2 Column 3.

60. Ketkar Nagar Bhavan, Nasik. A Town Hall was built in memory of Shri Ketkar. Pleader at Nasik. Son-in-law of Lok Tilak. Brother of G.V.Ketkar ex-editor, the Kesari.

61. Chitramayajagat. August 1919. p.323.

62. Ranade, Mrs. Satyabhamabhai. Wife of Shri K.N. Ranade, Paisa Fund Volunteer died at Nasik on 15 January 1918.

63. Ranade, Krishnaji Mahadeo (1879-) Deshadesa. Worked at Paisa Fund volunteer whole life since 1915 and collected about Rs.50000/-. Organised Paisa Fund Mela 1917-28.

64. Khasgi Mophat Vachanalayache Prathama Ahaval 1913-14. (Report for two years). Wai, R.G.Bhide, 1915. Mophat Vachanalaya, Wai. Dvitiya Ahaval, 1915. Wai. R.G.Bhide and J.R.Ranade, 1915.

65. Bhide, Ramkrishna Gopal alias Baburao (1896-1976). Born Wai, Dist. Satara. Worked in Hindi Swarajya Sangh. Indian Home Rule League 1916- Joined the Kesari institution in 1920. Asstt. Editor. The Kesari, Secretary, Hindu Maha Sabha. Author of about 18 books in Marathi.

66. Shrikshetre Tuljapur Vividh Granthe Mophat Vachanalayache Prathama Varshik Vrittanta. 1918.

67. Chitrashalagaint, January 1921. p.30.

68. Vaidya, Gajanan Bhasker

69. Bapat, S.V. Lokamanya Tilak yanchya Athavani va Akhyayike. Vol.2. Lokamanya Tilak yanchi thalak smarake. Poona. S.V.Bapat. 1925. Last 6 pages.

70. Malegaon Nagar Vachanalaya. Hirak Mahotsava. Sampurna Ahevala. p.19.

71. Sarvajanik Vachanalaya, Kalkyan. Suvarna Mahotsava 3 Feb 1935. Ahevala.

72. Kesari, 15 April 1919. Library Miscellany. 6(1-2) Jan-Apr. 1919. p.19.

73. Limaye, V.G.

74. Kesari 11 February 1919.

75. Maharashtriya Mophat Vachanalaya Prathama Parishad, Pune, Ahaval (1921). Poona 1921.

76. Jayakar, Dr. Mukund Ramrao (1873-1959). Barrister, Jurist. Orator and leader. Judge, Federal Court 1937. Member Privy Council 1939-42. Member, Constituent Assembly of India. First Vice-chancellor, Poona Univ. 1949-1957.

77. Vaidya Chintaman Vinayak (1861-1938). Bharatacharya (1905). Awarded by Lok Tilak. Judge. Ujjain (1897-1896). High Court Judge, Gwalior (1896-1914). Scholar on Maha-bharat. President, Maharashtra Sahitya Sammelan (1908). Bharat Itihasa Sanshodhak Mandal, Pune.

78. Paranjape, (Prof.) Shivaram Mahadeo (1864-1929). Disciple of Lok Tilak and Guru of V.D.Savarkar. Editor 'Kal' Weekly 1898-1910. Imprisonment 1919-12. President, Marathi Sahitya Sammelan, 1928.

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79. Maharashtra Free Libraries Association. Constitition and Rules together with the brief report of the First Maharashtra Free Reading Rooms and Libraries Conference, Poona (1921). pp.3-4.

80. Kamat, Balkrishna Sitaram alias Babasaheb (1871-1945). Social worker. Member, Bombay Legislative Council 1913-20. 1931-35. President, Deccan Sabha; Member, Oppressed Class Mission.

81. Dr. Phatak V.R. Poona. M.R. (London). Nationalist. Took part in Mulshi Satyagraha.

82. Maharashtra Free Libraries Association. Constitution and Rules etc. (1921) pp-5-6.

83. Khaparde, Balkrishna Ganesh, urpha Babasaheb (1880-1968) B.A. LL.B. High Court pleader. Elder son of Khaparde Dadasaheb. Friend of Lok Tilak.

CHAPTER - B

GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF NATIVE GENERAL LIBRARIES

1881 - 1921

Spread of Education

During this period, there was a constant increase in the number of educated Indians and educational institutions in the Bombay Presidency as can be seen from the following Table[1].

General Educational Progress (1901-1921)

	1901-02		1921-22	
	No. of Insti-tutions	Number of pupils	No. of Insti-tutions	Number of pupils
1. Arts colleges	10	1941	10	4829
2. Professional colleges	5	1064	7	2595
3. Secondary schools	494	48533	463	77607
4. Primary schools	8987	513211	12622	798508
5. Training schools	17	848	43	3015
6. Other special schools	35	3179	164	10323
Total	9548	568776	13309	896877
Unrecognised				
1. Advanced	111	4680	88	2737
2. Elementary	2592	66412	1503	58778
Total	2703	71092	1591	61515
Grand Total	12251	639868	14900	958392

Important development during the period from 1882 to 1902 is that as compared to the Institutions conducted by Government or by Missionary Agencies, the Indian private enterprise (Schools, Colleges and Institutions conducted by Indian managers) grew enormously. This can be seen from the following table for 1881-82.[2]

Institutions	Conducted by Indian managers	Conducted by other than Indian managers
Arts colleges	5	18
Secondary schools	1341	757
Primary schools	54662	1842
Professional colleges and schools	10	18
	56018	2635

The following statistics of 1921-22[3] will show the comparative position of Government and private efforts on the one hand and of the Indian and Missionary efforts on the other

Management	Number of Institutions	Number of scholars
1. Government	2946	256998
2. Board	53188	3072412
3. Aided	93629	3501766
4. Unaided	16357	565384
5. Unrecognised	16322	422165
	182442	7818725

N.B. Figures for British India only (exclusive of Burma)

Management of the Institution	Direct expenditure from Government funds (Figures in lakhs)
Government	286
Boards	261
Private bodies	191
	738

N.B. Figures for British India only inclusive of Burma

The motive that led to this expansion of Indian private enterprise was mainly patriotic. By about 1880, there was a wave of social, religious and political reforms in India - a beginning of a renaissance in Indian national life. The leaders of this movement were inspired by a faith in the ideal of building up a great nation in India and their ultimate objects were social and political. But they realised that a new nation, after their heart's desire, could not be built up unless the education of the country's youth came to be controlled and managed by Indians themselves. Hence movement for establishing schools and colleges produced such institutions as Deccan Education Society, Poona, which proved to be a beacon light to other enthusiastic social workers. At that time Europeans were appointed in the educational institutions even under Indian management as Principals of Colleges, Headmasters of Schools or Teachers of English, as Indians were not considered fit for such jobs. Really, it was expensive to appoint Europeans as the salaries of Europeans were heavy.

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Indian private enterprise could not thrive as the European employees were neither inspired by the ideals of national uplift nor very willing to work on a lower salary. Sacrifice on the part of educated Indians was required. With the advent of persons like Mr.R.P.Paranjpe, a Senior Wrangler of the Cambridge University, later on conferred with great honours, as the Principal of a private college (Fergusson College, Poona) the stamp of inferiority that was attached to Indian private enterprise vanished at once and the spread of education got a momentum and its expenditure was considerably reduced.[5]

British Policy Towards public libraries in Western Maharashtra 1881-1920.

1881 to 1909 - A period of no change

The British policy towards public libraries evolved during 1855 and 1880 continued further for over a quarter of a century without any modifications or changes. The public libraries were registered with Director of Public Instruction for grant of publications and the annual reports of the DPI upto 1909 gave regularly the number of libraries registered with the Director of Public Instruction. No further assistance was given by the Bombay Government to any public library.

But this policy took a different turn due to the changed political situation thereafter.

Partition of Bengal and Indian Unrest

In 1905, Lord Curzon announced the decision of the Government of India regarding partition of Bengal. This decision was opposed by the people of India. A movement, therefore, was launched against the partition of Bengal under the leadership of B.G.Tilak, Bipin Chandra Pal and Lala Lajpat Rai. During this period revolutionaries had started violent activities against the British regime in India and abroad. The Government therefore took every possible measure to suppress the extremist movement. Militant nationalists were put in jail. Severe restrictions were put on public meetings and Prevention of Seditious Meetings Act was passed in 1907.

Lokmanya Tilak, along with other leaders in India, tried to create public opinion against the partition of Bengal. He lectured in a number of public meetings, wrote editorials and comments in the Kesari and the 'Mahratta'. A leading article 'The Country's Misfortune' was publihhed in the Kesari dated 12 May 1908 which was treated as seditious and Lok. Tilak was sentensed six years' transportation and was sent to Mandalay in 1908. This act of the Government against the popular leader of India further created unrest among the people of India. All these political events had affected the working and administration of public libraries. Similarly people's unrest and reaction against the alien rule were reflected in the affairs of public libraries in the Western Maharashtra.

Restrictions on Public Libraries

Library is a public place where a number of people come together for reading newspapers, magazines and books. So in some libraries, people received information about the happenings of the country including news about the atrocities of the British Government, reports of lectures of leaders and comments of the newspapers criticising the Government action. These news and comments were naturally discussed by the readers in the premises of the library. The libraries provided a place for the people to come together and gave them an opportunity to discuss the happenings in the country as described in the newspapers and books in the library. Government, therefore, thought that public libraries would become centres breeding unrest against the rulers.

In 1909, the attention of the Government was drawn to the fact that in certain cases, aided and registered libraries were being used for purposes that Government could not approve. "Literature of a harmful character was being taken in and the premises were being utilized for meetings at which sedition was openly talked".[6] Libraries are intended to be places for reading, writing and friendly intercourse and as one condition of Government aid or of registration is that the institution should be conducted in accordance with the rules of the Education Department, Government laid down the following six rules[7] for the management of registered or aided public libraries in the Bombay Presidency.

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1. There shall be a Managing Committee responsible for the administration of the library with a Secretary to carry on correspondence.

2. Authenticated lists should be kept of all books, papers etc. in the library.

3. A list of the periodicals and books subscribed for or added to the library shall be submitted each year on the 1st of April to the Director of Public Instruction.

4. No periodicals or books which have been notified to the Committee (Managing Committee of the Library) by the Director of Public Instruction as objectionable, shall be added to or retained in the library.

5. The library shall not be used for any political meetings, nor for any other proceedings which are likely to create a feeling of dissatisfaction towards the Government or to offend the religious susceptibilities of any community.

No public meeting of any other kind shall be held in the library without the previous permission of the authority empowered by the Director of Public Instruction to grant such permission. In cases of doubt, the decision of the Director of Public Instruction shall be final.

6. The library shall be open to inspection by any officer of Government whom the Director of Public Instruction may empower to inspect it.

Question was raised whether these rules apply to libraries aided by Municipal or local funds[8] and to libraries in Native States[9]. Thereupon Government of Bombay clarified that Municipal and Local Funds are public funds and it is open to Municipalities and Local Boards to apply the rules in GR 2037 dated 14 Oct 1909 mutatis mutandis, to libraries aided by them[10]. Regarding the libraries in Native States, Government stated[11] that these rules did not apply to libraries in Native States, but these libraries could be registered, if any such library desired to be registered in the office of the Director of Public Instruction, Bombay Presidency on the condition that these will not take seditious periodicals and not allow the library premises to be used for seditious demonstrations or propaganda. Recommendations for registration of libraries should be submitted by Political Agents to Political Department.

Political Agents were further requested "to ascertain from time to time, whether conditions continue to be fulfilled and if broken, privileges of registration may be withdrawn from the offending library".

Consequently four libraries in the Native States of the Southern Division were registered in the Office of the Director of Public Instruction[12].

Regarding the newspapers and books which should be treated as containing seditious material and therefore to be excluded

from Registered or aided public libraries, the Government clarified[13] under G.R. in Education Department No.2234 dated 18 Nov 1910 as follows

All newspapers in which Government had forbidden the insertion of official advertisements and

All publications (books etc) of which the importation has been forbidden by the Government of India, or which have been declared forfeited by the Bombay or any other local Government under the Indian Press Act (I) of 1910, should be excluded from registered or aided libraries.

List of such publications, corrected uptodate, were attached to the G.R. Officers concerned were empowered to add to these lists from time to time the names of any other publications which may be proscribed in future.

The Governor-in-Council hoped that Municipalities and Local Bodies will not fail to apply to libraries subsidized by them the conditions which apply to libraries receiving assistance from Government.

For this purpose, Collectors were requested to communicate to any Municipality or Local Board, which subsidizes a library, the names of newspapers and publications referred to in paragraph 1 of the G.R. mentioned above with a request that it will take action in the matter[14].

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Two lists of publications proscribed by the Government were appended to the G.N. The first list included 18 publications prohibited from entering India under Section 19 of the Sea Customs Act 1878 and ordered to be intercepted under section 25 and 26 of the Indian Post Office Act 1898. The second list contained 78 publications proscribed by the Bombay Government under section 12 of the Indian Press Act which included the Autobiography of Joseph Mazini written by V.D.Savarkar, Lectures of B.G.Tilak and B.M.Paranjape, Kichakvadh - a play by K.P.Khadilkar editor of Kesari, Nibandhamala and Essays 'The State of our country' by V.K.Chiplunkar, Biographies of B.G.Tilak and Essays of B.M.Paranjape etc. The third list included 40 publications proscribed by the other Local Governments in the Bombay Presidency under section 12 of the Indian Press Act[15].

Instructions were, therefore, given to the Collectors and Oriental Translator to Government for careful scrutiny of all books and periodicals which they received and to bring to the notice of the Government any seditious matter therein contained, without delay[16].

The list of newspapers forbidden by the Government for the insertion of official advertisements, however, was not made public and kept as confidential. But this information had to be disclosed in an answer to question put by the Hon. Mr.Siddhanath Dhonddeo Garud on 26 January 1911[17] at the Bombay Legislative Council meeting. Twenty five newspapers and periodicals were proscribed[18].

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In these circumstances the public libraries had two alternatives before them

(a) To register the library according to the Act and manage the library under the control of the Director of Public Instruction, accept the Government assistance and be free from Government anger and despotism.

(b) Not to register the library and manage the library without Government assistance or approval, maintaining the freedom of the library and face the consequences, if any.

As these rules imposed various restrictions over the freedom or free working of public libraries, several libraries were reluctant to get themselves registered under these rules, especially in view of the fact that Government assistance was nominal and the assistance was mostly restricted to the free supply of Government publications such as Annual reports of Government departments, Government gazettes etc.

Consequent upon the framing of these new rules, the number of libraries registered in the office of the Director of Public Instruction was considerably reduced in 1909-10[19] to 55 in all (10 for the Central division, 13 for the Southern division, 28 for the Northern division and 4 for Sindh, while the number of libraries registered with the Government in 1902-03[20] and 1908-09[21] had been 124 and 120 respectively.

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As the Government officials used their influence to get the libraries registered with the Government the number of libraries registered with the Government was slightly increased from 55 in 1909-10 to 78 in 1910-11[22] (23 for the Central division, 15 for the Southern division, 36 for the North division and 4 for Sind).

Efforts were made to implement the G.R. and all the libraries were requested to conform to the rules[23].

Libraries were visited, the lists of books were examined and publications proscribed by the Government from time to time, were detected and were collected by Collectors and other officers from libraries, and the proscribed publications were deposited with the Government.

Libraries were asked to stop the newspapers which were not desired in the registered libraries. For example, the Pali library consented to discontinue Kesari, Karmanook and Dharma except in case of Mumukshu for which they had already paid the current year's subscription upto Dec. 1911 and they requested therefore to be allowed to discontinue it in Jan 1912. But the Commissioner, Central Division [Memorandum from Mr.Curtis No. C 1205 dated 9 May 1911] did not accept the request and asked the menagers of the library to discontinue Mumukshu at once as a condition precedent to registration of libraries, even though the current year's subscription had already been paid.

Information was called for regarding the grants sanctioned by the Government of Bombay from time to time to other public libraries in the Bombay Presidency in order to check whether these libraries had accepted the conditions of the Government and conformed to the G.R.

It was disclosed that 89 libraries had registered with the Government and 14 libraries had refused to register their names.

The Native General Library, Vengurla had refused to register the library though it received a grant of Rs.500 in 1870-71 for building. The library authorities therefore were asked to refund the amount paid to the library.

On the basis of the information collected regarding registered and unregistered libraries, libraries which received Government assistance and various cases that emerged while implementing the G.R. of 1909, the Government of Bombay issued detailed instructions for the implementation of the G.R. of 1909[24].

Following are the important instructions.

1(iv) No Government servant shall join, or remain a member of any library which has not been registered.

1(v) No grants from the State funds shall be paid to libraries which have not been registered, and the attention

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of each municipality and local board concerned should be drawn to the impropriety of according any support, financial or other, to such libraries.

1(vi) These instructions apply only to libraries which take in vernacular newspapers and literature.

2. Two lists were appended to this resolution -

List A - registered libraries which have agreed to abide by the rules of the G.R. of 14th October 1909.

List B - Libraries already registered which refuse to abide by these rules.

The libraries in List B should be struck off the register and any Government servant who is a member of them should forthwith resign his membership.

5. Government grants that have already been paid to libraries on condition of management in accordance with the rules of the Education Department, should be recovered from any library refusing to accept condition (ii) in part I above. The Director of Public Instruction should take steps in consultation with the Remembrancer of Legal Affairs, for the recovery of the grant of Rs.500 made to the Vengurla Native General Library, if the amount has not been recovered already.

6. Registration is open to libraries in Native States and Political Officers should encourage libraries in Native States to apply for registration. It is left to Political

Officers to decide, in each case, whether their subordinates may be members of libraries in Native States[25].

The Impact

Restrictions on Government servants not to become members of unregistered libraries or subscribe in aid of an unregistered library proved effective. Most of the Government servants discontinued their membership and did not pay the subscription. For instance, this GR was brought to the notice of all the staff members working in judicial establishments in the Ahmednagar District, and consequently, seven Government servants, who were members of such libraries had resigned[26].

Government servants formed a considerable section of members of the Petit Institute of Bombay and therefore had to find out a midway, facilitating the Government servants to continue their membership[27]. The Petit Institute continuously refused to accept the Government conditions and therefore the name of the Institute was struck off from the list of registered libraries[28]. But finally had to register the library and accept the Government restriction on selection and preservation of literature in regional languages[29]. From this correspondence, it seems that Government restrictions were mainly on the literature published in the regional languages, which many times contained anti-British material. The Government officers did not know the contents of material published in regional languages,

though there was an Oriental Translator to the Government whose duty was to bring to the notice of the Government seditious material appearing in the regional languages.

Registration of Libraries : Opposition

Many members of the Managing Committee of several libraries e.g. Dhulia, Kalyan, Pali, Thana opposed for registration and hence the meetings were continuously postponed.

As the pressure for registration from the Government was high, office-bearers of some public libraries, without consulting the Managing Committee or taking sanction of the Annual General Body meeting, gave consent to the Government for registration in the broad interests of the library. Some office-bearers got the approval of the Managing Committee later on. But some office-bearers had to face a no confidence motion. For example, Baburao Ramchandra Ransingh and Mr. Bhangaonkar of the Dhulia library had to face a no-confidence motion for registering the library without the consent of the Managing Committee. But it was not passed. Though the members opposed the registration question orally, when it came to give the opinion, in writing, many withdrew their opposition, because of the fear of Government action. Even with all these pressures some libraries did not register their libraries. For example, the public library at Kalyan did not register the library[31].

Ban on proscribed publications

Some publications in the vernacular languages (newspapers,

books etc.) contained material which, according to Government rules may spread unrest against the ruler. Government therefore prepared from time to time, a list of proscribed publications. The newspaper 'The Kesari' was popular but this was proscribed. Bombay Government banned the following publications for being subscribed to by registered libraries in the Bombay Presidency on 13 July 1918.

The Hindu of Madras, Home Ruler (Karachi), Sindhi Advocate and New Times - all from Sind Province[32].

Amendment to Rule No.5 G.R. J.D.No.2037 dated 14 October 1909

Rule 5 prohibited the use of the library for any Political meeting or for any other proceedings which were likely to create a feeling of disaffection towards the Government or to offend the religious susceptibilities of any community. Further it had stipulated that 'No public meeting of any other kind shall be held in it without the previous permission of the authorities empowered by the Director of Public Instruction to grant such permission'.

This stipulation caused great inconvenience to the libraries even for holding the annual general meeting or for arranging a lecture on non-political and educational matter.

On representation made by the J.N.Petit Institute, Bombay[33] Rule No.5 was amended and the above stipulation requiring permission of the Director of Public Instruction to hold public meeting of even general nature was removed[34].

Voice in the Legislative Council

This problem was raised in the Bombay Legislative Council by the Hon. Siddhedeo Dhonddeo Garud (Dhulia) and R.P.Ganesh Vyanketesh Joshi of Poona (Sarwajanik Kaka). Because of the question by Shri Garud, the Government had to disclose the names of newspapers in which the insertion of Government advertisements was forbidden. This list was kept confidential by that time. Government had also to disclose the reasons for issuing the GR of 1909 which was also kept confidential.[35]

Shri Ganesh Vyanketesh Joshi asked whether the Marathi magazines Karmanuk and Mumukshu were proscribed and the reasons for the same. It was noticed by the Government that the ban on 'Karmanuk' was unnecessary. Therefore the ban on Karmanuk was lifted[36].

Supply of Publications gratis

The Hon'ble Mr.Raghunath Pandurang Karandikar (Satara) at the Council meeting held on 26 September 1912 requested the Government to supply gratis the recognized libraries with parts of Gazette of India containing Council Proceedings of the Imperial Legislative Council so that the reading public may have facilities for obtaining correct information regarding the deliberations and decisions of that body[37]. Government of India accepted this suggestion and Part VI of the Gazette of India was sent gratis to all registered libraries[38].

Bombay Government also supplied gratis Part VII of the Bombay Government Gazette to registered libraries as it was cheaper to supply Gazette copies than the bound volumes of the Legislative Council Proceedings[39]. Further these libraries were provided with appropriate parts of the Government Gazette which contained translations of bills in vernacular[40].

At Ratnagiri, Mr.M.P.Khareghat[41], President of the Ratnagiri Native General Library and District Magistrate of Ratnagiri had to retire from Government service. In 1909 the library was proscribed as a disloyal body and the popular complaint was that the members were denied proper opportunity to have their own say. During the inquiry which was confidential Mr. Khareghat tried his best to put the facts before Mr.A.F. Maconochie, the then Collector. But Mr. Maconochie was so obsessed with the suspicious opinion of disloyalty and sedition the he did not listen to the judicious opinion of Mr.Khareghat and the Government, too,gave its verdict in favour of the Police and the District Magistrate. Mr. Khareghat as also all other members who were Government servants, had to resign. Mr.Khareghat retired shortly after this and it was said that the unhappy incident was one of the reasons of retirement[42].

Sholapur Native Library was forced to vacate the accommodation in the School building owned by Sholapur Municipality. For this, Sholapur Municipality agreed to pay Rs.1500 to the library for purchase of land or library building. A portrait of B.G.Tilak was also removed from the library[43].

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Libraries in the Native States

Rules were framed in the Native States of Sangli[44], Dhor[45] etc. for the registration of public libraries on the lines of the Rules framed by the Bombay Government.

In the Sangli State, the Chief Revenue Officer was empowered, (1) to inspect the library, (2) to decide which books and periodicals were objectionable and therefore not to be preserved in the library, and (3) to give permission to hold any public meeting in the library.

Native States in the Bombay Presidency also issued a circular to all its officers stating that no Government servant should be a member of or subscribe in aid of an unregistered library.

Impact of these restrictions was so much that most of the members did not pay their subscription. The Secretary of Peli (Dhor State) library complains that Notices were sent to subscribers 3 times for 1939 annual meeting, but there was no quorum.

The State Officials at Peli started subscribing to the Peli Library only when a Press Note was issued to that effect by the Government 'clarifying that Peli Library being a registered one, any State-Official can be a member of the same'[46].

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Increase in the number of registered libraries

In this way the pressure for registration of Public Libraries was high. It was therefore very difficult for the office-bearers of public libraries not to register the library. These conditions forced them to register the libraries. The number of registered libraries increased from 77 in 1910-11 to 232 in 1913-14[47].

Changes in Political Situation 1914.

Partition of Bengal was cancelled in 1911. Lok Tilak was released from Mandalay in 1914. Secondly the First World War started in 1914 and the British Government plunged in the War. British Government was in need of peace in India and an assistance from Indians. Leaders in India therefore made every efforts to take advantage of this situation and to gain political reforms.

Later on most of the libraries registered their names with the Director of Public Instruction and the number of registered libraries increased from 248 in 1914-15, 264 in 1916-17 to 297 in 1918-19.

The First World War ended in 1918. As the Indian people helped the British government in its War efforts, the public opinion in Britain changed. After constant negotiations with the Government, Montague-Chelmsford reforms were enacted into the Government of India Act 1919. Lok Tilak was in favour of implementing the reforms. All these events led to the release

of the various restrictions on the Press and to a certain extent, the public libraries.

Lifting the Ban on Proscribed Publications

Government therefore lifted the ban on proscribed publications. On enquiry from the Secretary of the Poona Native General Library, the Director of Public Instruction informed that the ban on the following proscribed publications had been lifted[48].

Sindh Province	-	Hindavasi, Home Ruler, Larkhana Gazette.
Baroda	-	Aryaprakash, Hindavijay, Baroda Vartamana.
Bombay.	-	Young India, Gujarati, Hindustan, Sandesh, Bombay Chronicle.
Poona	-	Kesari, Mahratta.

Rise of Mahatma Gandhi in Indian Politics.

Though Lokamanya Tilak favoured the Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms, Mahatma Gandhi was not in favour of these reforms. He opposed the Rowlatt Bills and started campaigns against the Rowlatt Act and the findings of the report of the Sedition Committee. Lok Tilak died on 1st August 1920. Thereafter Mahatma Gandhi launched his famous movement of non-cooperation with the Government.

The Nationalist Organizers of Public libraries responded to the call given by Mahatma Gandhi by disconnecting relations

with the Government and thereby cancellation of registration of their libraries. The first library being the Anjuman-I-Islam Library at Bhivandi.

The President of the Anjuman-i-Moinal Islam Library, Bhivandi was asked to send a list of reference books by the Deputy Educational Inspector, Thana, on 21 December 1920 in order to give some books gratis[49]. The President of the library not only discarded the suggestion about the proposed grant but also emphatically declared the withdrawal of the registration of the library in obedience to the Non-cooperation movement.

The reason for the adoption of this decision being that the 'Anjuman condemns any Government interference in its affairs'[50]. Accordingly the name of this library was withdrawn from the list of registered libraries[51].

Similarly the Propert Library, Jhelod, severed all connections with Government and requested the Government to remove the name of the Propert Library from the list of registered libraries published in the Government Gazette from time to time. Accordingly the name of the library was removed from the list of registered libraries[52]. Thus in 1920-21[53] 61 public libraries severed connection with the Government, but 80 libraries were newly added to the list (total 261). The number of registered libraries therefore decreased from 297 in 1918-19 to 242 in 1919-20 and again increased to 261 in 1920-21,

326 in 1921-22, 341 in 1925-26 and 363 in 1926-27 (Statistics for Sind excluded)r

The publication of Gazette of India Part VI had been discontinued from 1921 by order of Government of India and therefore nothing was to be supplied to Registered Vernacular Libraries in the Bombay Presidency gratis and hence the lists of registered libraries were not required to be supplied to that office thereafter[54].

With the transfer of Education to Indian Ministers in 1921[55] conflicts over this policy began to ensue because the Indian Ministers were naturally sympathetic with the managements of the libraries and did not desire to exercise political control over them. The Department of Education also complained that the supervision of public libraries had become more a 'police' than an 'educational' matter under the existing rules. Government, therefore, transferred the subject of registration of libraries to the Home Department (Political) (which was still a reserved subject with the Government) and the authority to register the libraries was vested in the District Magistrate[56], and to the Collector of Bombay in the case of libraries in Bombay City[57].

The Education Department, therefore, ceased to have any connection with the public libraries since 1928-29. This situation continued till 1937 when Provincial Autonomy was introduced and the Home Department itself was transferred to an Indian

Minister. The subject of Public libraries, therefore, came back to the Education Department in 1938 in the regime of the First Popular Ministry.

Due to the nationalistic spirit developed during this period, names of libraries signifying British influence were changed[58]. The word 'Native' was removed. The word 'General' was replaced by 'Sarvajanik'(meaning public) and the word 'library' was replaced by 'Granthalaya' or 'Vachanalaya' or 'Granthanalaya ani Vachanalaya (Library and Reading Room).

Increase in the number of libraries

During this period, about 150 libraries and reading rooms were established newly in Maharashtra (Table No. 10). Some of the libraries established upto 1930's were closed, some libraries were revived. Thus by the end of 1920, about 225 libraries and reading rooms were in existence. Out of which 158 libraries and reading rooms were registered with the Director of Public Instruction, Bombay Presidency in 1920 (Table No. 12). The districtwise number of these libraries was as follows.

Bombay Division	
Bombay	20
Ratnagiri Dist.	10
Kolaba Dist.	7
Nasik Dist	15
Thana Dist.	8
Total	60

Native States	
Bombay Division	6
Central Division	3
Southern Maratha States	31
Total	40

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Central Division	
Ahmednagar Dist.	7
Satara Dist	12
Sholapur Dist	8
Poona Dist	13
East Khandesh	12
West Khandesh	6
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Grand Total ... 158

Note - Libraries in the Kannada and the Gujarati Districts are excluded.

Thus the library movement spread over to about 146 towns in the Western Maharashtra. The rate of growth of libraries was slow from 1881 to 1905 as 55 libraries and reading rooms were established during this period. But from 1906 to 1920, 101 libraries and reading rooms were established. The rate of growth of libraries was rapid during this period due to changed political situation and national awakening in Maharashtra. Out of these libraries 40 libraries and reading rooms were established newly in the Native States.

At district towns and other places, about 185 libraries were in working condition in 1920. Maximum number of libraries were established at Bombay.

Establishment of various categories of libraries at towns like Bombay and Poona is a distinguishing feature of this period. Bombay had all categories of libraries such as the

libraries attached to Institutes like the BBRAS, The SM[illegible], Native General Libraries like the BNUL, the Petit Institute etc., one Library of Marathi books the Mumbai Marathi Granthasangrahalaya, Free Reading room and library such as the Peoples Free Reading Rooms and Library and Travelling libraries started by the Bombay Social Service League. Poona had Native General Library, one library of Marathi books, the Puna Marathi Granthalaya, with a number of Free reading rooms and libraries, besides the United Service library constituted only of Europeans. At other places, there were mostly subscription libraries except at Thana where the first library of Marathi books was established. A few free reading rooms were established mostly after 1905 at some towns.

Progress made upto 1905.

The position of some of these libraries in 1905 as regards the number of books possessed, annual expenditure on books, languages and subjects of reading materials, speciality of collection of books if any (i.e. any class of books in which the library is specially strong), catalogue of books whether printed and if so when, has been given in Table No.13

From this table, it appears that the libraries at Bombay had a better collection of books than the libraries at district towns and other places.

Out of the 19 libraries at Bombay, the maximum collection was possessed by the library of the BBRAS (100000)

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followed by the BN&L (21000), the BNI and the Petit Institute (14000 each). Other Bombay Libraries had the collection of books varying from 200 to 7000.

Out of the 39 libraries at district towns and other places, 10 libraries had collection over 2000, maximum being that of the Poona Native General Library numbering 6652. 6 libraries had between 10000 to 2000, 8 libraries had between 500 to 1000 and 15 libraries had below 500.

As regards amounts spent on books, it is observed that out of the 19 Bombay libraries, 4 libraries spent Rs.2000 to 3600, 3 libraries spent Rs.500 to 600, 7 libraries spent below Rs.355 and nothing was spent by 5 libraries.

At district towns and other places, 6 libraries spent between Rs.200 to Rs.500, 7 libraries spent between Rs.100 to Rs.200, 16 libraries spent below Rs.100 and nothing was spent by 10 libraries.

Progress made upto 1920.

Progress made by these libraries upto 1920's in respect of number of members enrolled, amount of income received and expenditure incurred, purchase of books and periodicals and the use of the library etc. has been given in Table No.14 As many libraries have not preserved their records of this period and such information was also not collected

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by the Director of Public Instruction, information has been collected from available sources wherever possible and presented in this table.

From this table it may be observed that remarkable progress has been made by the following libraries.

Bombay

1. Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society Library
2. Bombay Native General Library.
3. David Sassoon Mechanics Institute Library.
4. Petit (J.N.) Institute.
5. The J.U. Yajnik Bhuleshwar Library.
6. People's Free Reading Room and Library.
7. Mumbai Marathi Granthasangrahalaya.

District Towns

Poona

1. Poona City General Library.
2. Albert Edward Institute and Cowasji Dinshaw Hall and Library.
3. Pune Marathi Granthalaya.

Kolhapur

1. Kolhapur Native Library.

Dhulia - Dhonde Shamrao Garud Library.

Sangli - Sangli Nagar Vachanalaya.

Thane - Marathi Granthasangrahalaya

Jalgaon - Vallabh Valji Library

Taluka towns and other places

1. Ichalkaranji. Apte Vachan Mandir.
2. Malegaon Sarvajanik Vachanalaya.
3. Vengurla Native General Library.

Library Buildings

In order to provide adequate accommodation for the growing library, members of various libraries collected funds and constructed library buildings newly or extended the existing buildings.

New library buildings were constructed for the native general libraries at Kudal, Kalyan, Rajapur, Sangli, Ichalkaranji, Jalgaon, Dhulia, Marathi Granthasangrahalaya at Mumbai, Thana and Poona and the Bhuleshwar Library, Bombay.

Additional accommodation was provided for the Kolhapur Native Library, the Albert Edward Institute, Poona, the Sangli City library.

Information about the cost of the library building, financial assistance received, names of donors with the amounts donated, year of construction and the total area constructed and such other matter has been given in Table No.15

As per wishes of the donor or to perpetuate the memory of the donor the names of following libraries were changed.

1. Apte Vachan Mandir, Ichalkaranji.
2. The Albert Edward Institute and Cowasji Dinshaw Hall and Library, Poona.

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1903 (?) The Jheverilal Umiashanker Yajnik Bhuleshwar Library, Bombay.

1907 Dhondo Shamrao Garud Library, Dhulia.

1909 Vallabhdas Valji Library, Jalgaon.

1920 Rao Bahadur Anant Shivaji Dessi Topiwala Library, Kudal, Dist. Ratnagiri.

Some libraries were accommodated in residential houses owned by individuals. Members therefore faced various problems. The owner of the house dictated many terms. It was awkward for the members to use the library. Therefore many members discontinued membership of libraries at Bhivandi, Pali etc. At Bhivandi, a new library Mayuresh Vachanalaya was established by Shri Govind Lakshman Kunte and others in 1917. The library at Pali was transferred to other places. Thereafter the libraries could make progress.

All these facts indicate that the libraries should have independent buildings without which the progress of the library is hampered.

Changing Character of the Libraries

Foundation, aims and objects

From the names of founders of the libraries established newly, it is observed that Indians have taken lead to establish these libraries. Among Indians, young people have taken active part in the establishment of the libraries of Marathi books, free reading rooms and libraries at Poona and libraries conducted by the Bombay Social Service league. Initiative of

Europeans in the establishment of libraries diminished in the course of time. This is a marked difference between the libraries established during the first half of the 19th century and those established during the first quarter of the twentieth century.

In the former period, the aim of establishment of Native General Libraries was taken to be the spread of education (especially knowledge of Europe) and to supply reading materials to the newly educated people to continue their education. While implementing this policy, requirements of subscribers knowing the English language were mostly considered.

During the latter period, there seems to be a shift of emphasis. Spread of education meant the spread of nationalistic education and requirements of Indians knowing English as well as the regional languages were given more consideration.

Aims and objects laid down for the establishment of libraries of Marathi books and Free Reading Rooms have made a great impact on the objects of libraries established during this period. More attention was given to supply the reading materials in the regional languages.

Members and their privileges

During this period the number of Indian members of all the libraries was constantly increasing while that of the European members was decreasing.

For example increase in the number of members of the BBRAS and the SMI, where the European members had a majority upto 1880's was slow whereas increase in the number of members of the libraries like the BNGL, the Petit Institute where Indian members had majority was rapid.

Library	Year	Members
BBRAS	1920	469 Resident members
SMI	1899-1900	267 Resident members 104 Life members 507 Visitors
BNGL	1912 1918	1492 825
Petit Institute	1912 1923	2667 4000
Bhuleshwar Library	1895	600

At district towns, maximum number of members was that of the Kolhapur Native Library (635 in 1916-17) followed by the Poona Native General Library (477 in 1920). There was rapid increase in the number of members of the Jalgaon Library from 178 in 1910 to 592 in 1923. At other district towns, the number of members was between 100 and 300. At other towns, the number of members was increasing but remained between 50 and 200.

Among the Indians, the Parsees continued to enroll on an increasing scale at Bombay. For example, out of the total 1398 members of the Petit Institute in 1898, 1127 were Parsees, 150 Christians, 99 Hindus and 22 Mahomedans[59] whereas at the BNGL in 1918 out of the total 825 members, 373 were Parsees, 390 were Hindus, 37 were Christians, 17 were Muslims and 8 were Jews.

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At district towns and other places, Brahmins formed a major group of members. At some towns, Brahmins were in majority. For example at Ichalkaranji, out of the total 199 members, in 1932, 118 were Brahmins and 34 were Marathas[61]. At Kolhapur, the number of Maratha members was constantly on increase due to growth of education among the Marathas and social reforms movement started in the Kolhapur State with the encouragement from the Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj of Kolhapur. Other caste people and religious groups remained in minority.

Generally there was opposition for admission of Harijans as members of these libraries. For example at the Sangli library Shivappa Kushapa Tirmare, Harijan by caste and teacher by profession was not admitted in 1919-20[62]. He again applied for membership in 1924. But his application was rejected by the Secretary of the Library on the ground that he belonged to Scheduled Caste and members of other castes would object to his admission[63]. However, this application was placed before the Annual General Meeting held on 30-8-1924 which admitted Shri Tirmare as member of the library[64]. In this General Meeting, the rules of the library were changed and all people were admitted as members irrespective of one's caste or religion. It is an indication of social change that Shri Tirmare was awarded Honorary Membership of the Library in 1973[65]. Two Harijans were members of the Ichalkaranji Library in 1932[66].

During this period, beginning has been made to enrol women as members of the libraries. For example at the Petit

Institute[67], the number of women members was 1 in 1893, 15 in 1899, 31 in 1905 and 107 in 1925. This is an indication of awareness among the Parsees due to spread of female education and social reforms carried out among the Parsees in Bombay. At the Kolhapur Native library, one lady Mrs. Lakshmibai Ruikar was elected member of the Committee of Management in 1898-99, but she never attended its meeting.

As regards profession of the members, it may be observed that people from the legal profession, the journalists, the authors, the printers, the publishers were enrolled as members of the libraries on an increasing scale due to the development of these professions in Maharashtra, besides people from professions connected with Education and persons employed at different offices.

Number of Members - Classwise

Number of First Class members was small as compared to other categories of members and that too, decreasing. However, the number of Third class members with lower rates of subscription was constantly on increase as follows

Library	Year	Class of Members					
		LM	I	II	III	IV	V
Petit Institute Library Bombay	1898	29	172	171	1928		
BnGL	1918	42	36	78	669*		
SMI	1899-1900					950**	

*Subscribers. **Visitors.

Library	Year	Class of members					
		LM	HON	I	II	III	IV	V
District towns and other places								
Kolhapur	1884-85		8	7	18	20	171	
Kolhapur	1916-17		3	2	11	37	582	20
Sawantwadi	1899-1900		5*	2	25	42	35	
Dhulia	1918		-	2	13	49	226	
Sangli	1914-15		-	2	14	16	130	30
Sangli	1920-21		-	2	12	25	228	16
Ichalkaranji	1896		-	5	1	7	58	15
Sholapur	1910		-	2	6	12	40	
Sholapur	1921-22		-	-	6	15	200	
Poona	1896			6	27	173		29**
	1921			2	31	431		13

* Special Class. **Students

Jalgaon library started a higher class of Rs.2/- per month in 1910 with 2 members. This number increased to 6 in 1923, and no member of this class enrolled since 1933. From the above statement, it appears that the common people were attracted to the libraries.

The class of subscribers of the BBRAS was wiped out and no subscriber was on the roll of the library by 1920's as the rates of subscription both for Members and Subscribers were the same, there were no strict restrictions on admission of Indians as members, and good library facilities were available at other libraries in Bombay with cheaper rates of subscription. It seems that due to Indianisation of libraries, the number of Indians aspiring for membership of the BBRAS lessened.

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Students

Libraries at Kolhapur, Sangli, Pali, Sholapur, Jalgaon and at other places admitted students with the privilege of reading in the library with lower rates of subscription of one Anna per month. But there was less response to the introduction of this class and few members were enrolled.

Town	Year	No. of students	
Jalgaon	1910 to 1922	Few members - did not take advantage	
	1923	120	
	1926	33	(deposit was taken and hence the number reduced)
Sangli	1912	2	
	1914-15	30	
Sholapur	1885	22	

Poor response may be due to the poverty of students, non-availability of good readable books for students, non-issue of books for home reading to students and apathy of both the teachers and the parents towards developing a reading habit among students.

The Privileges of members

As in the earlier period, during this period as well, there were privileged categories of members who get preference in issue of books and magazines. But there was a struggle over the issue of right of voting of the lower class members and the privilege of contesting election for membership to the Committee of Management at some of the libraries.

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For example at Sangli in 1896, members of the First, the Second and the Third class had the right to vote and contest election to the Committee of Management. But the 4th class members paying 4 Annas per month had not the right to vote and contest the election[68].

Therefore, in 1910 Shri M.G.Oak, a 4th class subscriber represented to the General Body that the Fourth Class members be given the right to vote at the General Body Meeting as they are educated and by profession are employed people and tradesman. But this request was not granted with the remarks that "as the members of the Fourth Class are quite able to pay (at the rate of subscription prescribed for the Third Class Members i.e. 8 Annas per month), it is not expedient to extend the privilege now asked for"[69]. In 1916, the Annual Meeting gave sanction for including 4 representatives of 4th Class members in the General Body meeting without a right to contest the election for the Committee of Management. But the fourth class members were not satisfied with this decision.

The struggle continued for quite a long time by enrolling more members and they were finally successful in 1924 by amending the constitution. By this amendment, 7 representatives of the Fourth Class members were eligible to vote at the General Body Meeting with a right to contest the election of the Committee of Management[70].

At some libraries, though all the members had the right to vote and contest the election of the Committee of

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Management, less representation was given to the third class members in the Committee of Management though the number of third class members was more. For example at the Bhuleshwar Library, 11 members from the Life Members, First and Second Class Members and 2 members from the Third Class members were to be elected on the Committee of Management.

In most of the libraries members and subscribers were treated on par at the reading room table. But this idea was not liked by the members of the Sawantwadi Library, as they decided to keep a separate table for the First and the Second Class members among whom were Europeans, Sardars and High Officials of the Sawantwadi State[72]. Keeping a distance from lower class members was a regular phenomena at that time and this instance throws light on the social conditions of the period.

Library Finance

Membership subscription

Highest amount of subscription of Rs.32000/- was received by the Petit Institute in 1920 because of the increased number of members approximately 4000. The BBRAS continued to receive greater amount of subscription from members - Rs.22954 in 1920 due to higher rates of subscription and increase in the number of members. The amount of subscription received by the SMI and the BSGL were Rs.5500 in 1899-1900 and Rs.6120 in 1918 respectively. But at other libraries in Bombay the income received from membership subscription was poor because of the

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cheaper rates of subscription, even though there was an increase in the number of members.

At district places, subscription amounts collected ranged between Rs.1000 and Rs.3000 maximum being that of Kolhapur Native Library (Rs.2845 in 1920-21) followed by Poona (Rs.2149 in 1910 and Rs.4000 in 1928) due to lower rates of subscription and comparatively slow rate of increase in the number of members. At other places, also because of the similar reasons, the income from subscription was meagre.

Non-payment of subscription by some members was a regular phenomena and to recover the membership subscription was a problem for all the libraries. Recovery of subscription and collection of subscription was done by sending the members of the library staff to the residence of the members. In order to have an incentive to the members of the staff for recovery of subscription, the Kolhapur Native Library decided to grant an allowance or bonus to its members of the staff to the tune of 20% of the amount exceeding Rs.1500 recovered from membership subscription.[73]

At many libraries especially at Taluka towns and other places, major portion of income from subscriptions continued to be received from the First and the Second Class members. For example at Sawantwadi, out of the total subscription of Rs.1341 collected in 1899-1900 from 109 members, Rs.636 were received from 5 special class members only.[74] It is, however

observed that the number of First Class members continued to be the same and at many places there was a tendency of Fall in the number. For example at Sawantwadi in 1899-1900, the number of members was special class (5), First class (2), Second class (25), Third Class (42) and Fourth Class (35).

Due to the increasing cost and expenditure on books and periodicals, the rates of subscription were raised mostly after the First World War by libraries at Dhulia (1920) by 25 percent[75] and at Sawantwadi (1922) by 50 per cent for the first, second and the Fourth class and by 25 percent for the third class members[76]. Otherwise the rates of subscription remained cheaper all the time, from Re.1 to As 4. There was no increase in the rates of subscription of the BBRAS and the SMI during this period.

Donations

Collection of donations from wealthy and philanthropic persons remained a constant source of income. This source proved well especially for raising funds for construction of library buildings (details given under Library buildings). From the list of donors, it is observed that it was mostly the Indians who gave donations. Donations from Europeans were decreasing. Only a few Europeans gave donations to the libraries.

After construction of library buildings, some parts of the buildings were given on rental basis accruing a regular

source of income to these libraries. For example the Petit Institute received an income of Rs.7200 in 1899 and it increased to Rs.24000 per annum in the later period, from this source[77].

Reserve Funds

Subscriptions from Life Members remained a regular source of income. As compared to the enrolment of Life Members upto 1880's, the number of Life Members enrolled during this period was lessening each year, resulting into very little addition to the Reserve Funds of the libraries. But the amount of interest received on Reserve Funds remained a regular source of income to these libraries as can be seen from the following table.

Library	Year	Amount of interest received	Amount of Reserve Fund Rs.
Petit Institute	1919	Rs. 6000	-
BBRAS	1920	1703	Fixed dep. 9000 Balance 10149.
BMI	1899-1900	900	
BNGL	1918	902	23700

At district towns and other places, amount of interest received on reserve funds was nominal as few libraries developed Reserve Funds and those which had accumulated reserve funds had to spent it for the construction of library buildings.

Assistance from Local Self-Govt. Institutions

The libraries continued to receive financial assistance from municipalities and other local self-govt. institutions for the purchase of books, general maintenance and for the construction of library buildings[78].

Library	Municipality	Year	Amount of assistance in Rs.	Purpose and condition of grant
Malegaon Sarvajanik Vachanalaya	Malegaon city municipality	1899	150	Books worth Rs.110/- be purchased
Vengurla Dist. Ratnagiri	Vengurla Municipality	1918	25	Purchase of books
Dhondo S. Gorud Library Dhulia	Dhulia Municipality	1880 1920	100 75	
Poona NGL	Poona City Municipality	1894-95 1901-03	200	Purchase of books of the equal amount be purchased
		1904 onwards then stopped for some years	100	
		1925 onwards	100	
Vallabh Valji Library Jalgaon	Jalgaon Municipality	1905 Since its inception 1894	500 50 150	Library building
Sholapur NGL	Sholapur Municipality	1883-84 1884-85	100	
Lord Rippon Town hall and library.	-do-	1897	10000	Library building
Kolhapur NL	Kolhapur Municipality	1890-91	100	
Nasik NGL	Nasik Municipality	1-10-1887 to 31-3-1889 1890-91	150 100	

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From this statement, it is observed that the amount of financial assistance given ranged between Rs.25 and Rs.200 per year. Municipalities at Vengurla, Malegaon and Poona laid down the condition to purchase of books from these grants while grants from other municipalities were unconditional.

Jalgaon Municipality gave a grant for the construction of the library building. Sholapur Municipality spent an amount of Rs. 10000/- for construction of the Lord Ripon Town Hall and Library.

Assistance from Native States

Libraries in the Native States were assisted financially by the State. The Kolhapur State sanctioned a grant of Rs.25 from 1890 and paid for the services of a sentry to the General Library, Gargoti. Services of one sentry were granted to the Kolhapur Native Library.

The Sangli State, through the courtesy of Captain Burke, the Administrator, donated Rs.4200 during 1909 and 1911. This amount was utilised for the construction of the Sangli Library building. The Sangli State further gave an advance of Rs.1800 in 1921 for the extension of the library building.

The Chief of Ichalkaranji assisted the library at Ichalkaranji by sanctioning annual grant of Rs 108 and the services of a sentry since 1896.

The Chiefs of Native States enrolled themselves as members of the First class with higher rates of subscription. For example, the Chief of Kolhapur State continued to pay Rs.10 per month. The Chief of Sawantwadi increased his subscription to Rs.20 per month in 1899-1900. Chiefs of Native States also gave donations to libraries. For example the Chief of Thor Shri Pantsachiv, donated Rs.50 to library at Pali in 1919.

Higher officials and Sardars in the Native States continued to pay membership subscription at higher rates per month and gave donations occassionally.

Assistance from the Government of Bombay

A striking feature of this period is that no donations or money grants were sanctioned by the Government of Bombay, either for purchase of books or for construction of library buildings to any public library. Government of Bombay gave publications only to the libraries registered with the Director of Public Instruction for receipt of government reports and such other publications.

It may thus be observed that the progress was made by these libraries without any kind of assistance from the Government of Bombay. The support was received wholly from the private individuals.

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Reading Materials and Use of the Library

Collection of books

Books were added every year by way of purchase or donation. The BBRAS continued to spend maximum amount on the purchase of books every year. For example, an amount of Rs.6097 was spent in 1920 for the purchase of 1448 new books. This helped the library to have the richest collection of books numbering more than one lakh volumes[79]. A catalogue of these holdings of the library was printed[80,81] in two parts. Besides these new books, the library possessed a good collection of rare books and manuscripts, acquired mostly by way of donations from time to time. The library possessed a number of rare books in English, in Italian, on a variety of subjects including some rarities in the world. A detailed list of such rarities can be found in various sources[82]. It also possessed more than 2100 manuscripts in Sanskrit and other oriental languages, a descriptive catalogue of which has been published[83].

Regarding the importance of the Library Shri J.J.Modi says[84], "I, personally am very greatly indebted to the Society, especially to its excellent library - excellent in its treasures of old books, were it not for these, I would not have been able to play even half of my humble part, as I have done, in the literary line. I look back with pleasure to the hours I have spent in the rooms of the society, in the company of some of its members, while reading my papers or hearing

those of others, and I look back with greater pleasure to the days and months and years that I have passed at home into the company of its precious treasures".

The collection of the Petit Institute library increased five times, from 5000 in 1891 to 25000 in 1920 while the collection of the BBG L increased to two times (18000) only. The BMI also had a good collection. At other libraries in Bombay, the collection ranged between 500 and 5000.

At district towns, the collection of the Kolhapur library was maximum, about 12000 in 1920. Though the Poona Native General Library was burnt in a fire in 1879, the collection increased to 8000 in 1910 and 9100 in 1920. The collection of the Dhulia library increased four times, from 1200 in 1880 to 5000 in 1920. At other towns, the number of books possessed by these libraries, at the most doubled during this period due to the limited funds available for purchase of books.

From the analysis of the figures for members enrolled, the books added each year and the total numbef of books possessed by these libraries, it is seen that the rate of addition of new books ranged between one to two books per member per year, even less than one in certain years and in some of the libraries. There was also loss of books every year and therefore the total collection increased at a slow rate.

Books by languages

From the examination of the printed catalogues and other source materials, it is observed that, at Bombay Libraries though the books in English language were more in number than in Indian languages, books in Indian languages were added on an increasing scale in all these libraries during this period.

For example the catalogue of the BM&L printed in 1898[85] included entries for English, European and oriental languages 346 pages, Gujarati 31 pages, Marathi 18 pages and other Indian languages 3 pages.

At district towns and other places, number of books in the regional languages and Marathi in particular were rapidly increasing as can be seen from the following table

Library	Year	English books	Marathi books	Sanskrit books	Total
Kolhapur RL	1890-91	2277	1514	308	
	1911-12	4394	4322 (M+S)		
Dhulia	1920	2048	3484 (M+other lang)		5532

Rapid increase in the number of books in Marathi language in libraries at district towns and other places is due to the increased production of Marathi books to suit the taste of the readers, increase in the literacy among the Marathi people and the resulting demand for Marathi books.

Books by subjects

Books of fiction and of recreation continued to form a major section of the library collections.

At Bombay libraries, percentage of books of drama, novels prose and poetry in English language purchased annually was more than these books in Indian languages, because among the members of these libraries, there were many Europeans and Indians knowing the English language so well as to enjoy and appreciate reading of English books. Books on science, history, travels and voyages, religion were added each year.

However in libraries at District towns and other places, Marathi books of various literary forms like, drama, novels, prose and poetry, travels and voyages were added on a larger scale than the books in English as the number of Marathi knowing readers was more and few members had the competent knowledge of English to enjoy reading of English books. The number of European members was small in some libraries and almost nil in many libraries.

Newspapers and Magazines

Newspapers and magazines were acquired on an increasing scale in most of the libraries as these were very popular among the readers.

The Bombay Libraries had strong collections of newspapers and magazines, than the libraries at district places. Maximum

number of periodicals were acquired by the Petit Institute with multiple copies of popular periodicals (298 periodicals with 668 copies in 1925). The BBRAS and the BNCL subscribed to 251 and 200 periodicals respectively in 1920.

At district towns, the number of periodicals subscribed ranged from 113 (Kolhapur 1920-21), 83 (Poona 1920) to 32 (Dhulia 1920). At other places, only a few newspapers and magazines were received.

Amounts spent on Indian periodicals were on the increase For example the BBRAS spent Rs.669 on Indian periodicals and Rs.1762 on Foreign periodicals in 1920. The BNCL subscribed to 43 Indian and 45 Foreign periodicals in 1918. While at the Kolhapur Native library, out of the total amount of Rs.600 spent on periodicals in 1920-21, about 70 % amount was spent on Indian periodicals.

Among the Indian periodicals, the number of periodicals in English language, published in India was more at the Bombay Libraries than that of the periodicals in Indian languages. While at district towns and other places, periodicals in Marathi language were more in number than periodicals in English. For example the Kolhapur Native Library subscribed to 41 English and 48 Marathi periodicals in 1915-16. This was increased to 50 English and 63 Marathi periodicals in 1920-21.

At Sangli, periodicals published in different parts of the country (for example Amrit Bazar Patrika of Calcutta,

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The Hindu of Madras, The Leader of Allahabad) were purchased so that information from all the parts of the country should reach the readers. Thus selection of periodicals was done scrupulously[86].

Thus the Indianisation of these libraries is reflected in the periodicals subscribed to by these libraries.

Daily Attendance

As fresh newspapers and magazines were kept on the reading room table, the daily attendance in the reading rooms increased as can be seen from the following table.

Library	Year	Daily attendance
Petit Institute	1898	400
BBRAS	1920	159
BNGL	1911	180
	1912	200
Kolhapur Native library	1890-91	50
	1900-01	60/70
	1911-12	80
	1916-17	150/175

The daily attendance however was rapidly increasing since 1914 due to the interest created by the news of World War I. People were anxious to know the latest developments of War and advances or retreats of the Britishers and further wanted to estimate the impact of these events on India. For instance, at Sangli, the number of monthly subscribers of the Fourth class and the Students class, increased from about 1000 Fourth class and 24 students class in 1912 to 1535 Fourth class and 348 students class subscribed in 1914-15[87].

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Issue of books and periodicals

The number of issue of books and periodicals is constantly on increase due to the increase both in membership and reading materials as well. Maximum issue of books and periodicals can be found at the Petit Institute with 53995 books, 89284 periodicals in 1925 with subscribers numbering over 4000 as compared to 47532 books and periodicals issued in 1920 by BBRAS, 67410 old and new books and periddicals in 1899-1900 by BMP, 12370 books, 6000 newspapers and 9160 periodicals in 1912 by BNGL. All these figures indicate the popularity of periodicals among all categories of readers.

Though the total issue of books and periodicals is maximum at the Petit Institute in 1920, issue of books and periodicals per member is maximum at the BBRAS (about 80 per member in 1920). Issue of books per reader was 8 in 1911 and 13 in 1925 at the BNGL.

This phenomena may be ascribed to purchase of more fresh books per member each year at the BBRAS than at the other libraries. Secondly the rules of the BBRAS as regards issue of books were more liberal than the rules of the BNGL giving preferential treatment to the First class members while issuing new books. (New books were circulated first among the First Class members and later on issued to the Second class members).

The percentage of issue of new books and periodicals continued to be higher than issue of old books. For example

at the BBRAS, issue of new books and periodicals was 28558 while that of old books was 18426 in 1920. This indicates that books are read most during the first year of their receipt o in the library.

Issue of books languagewise

At Bombay libraries, issue of books in English language was more than that in the Indian languages because more books in English were added to these libraries and many members had competent knowledge of English to read these books. For example at the BNGL in 1911, out of the total issue of 12208 books, 9552 were English, 1855 were Gujarati, 424 were Marathi and 377 were in other languages. At Petit Institute 4993 Gujarati and 27713 English books were issued in 1912. At district places, however, issue of books in Marathi was more and constantly on increase due to annual addition of fresh Marathi books and increase in the Marathi knowing readers. For example, at the Kolhapur Native Library, issue of books in Marathi was 5900 in 1900-01 which increased to 13050 in 1916-17. At Dhulia, 7640 Marathi and 4290 English books were issued in 1920. At Sangli, issue of Marathi books was 8415 while that of English was only 1976 in 1920-21.

Issue of books by Subjects

Fiction and books meant for recreation continued to be demanded and read most. For example at Petit Institute, out of the total number of 27713 English books issued in 1912, 70.5%

related to English fiction. At district places, the demand for Marathi novels was more. For instance at the Kolhapur Native library in 1916-17 out of the total issue of 9500 English and 13050 Marathi books, 2000 English Novels and 6200 Marathi novels were issued.

Next to Novels, books relating to dramas and other forms of literature were used most. The Marathi dramas were read increasingly as the number of Marathi dramas written at that time was relatively more. Similarly, dramas were staged by the Marathi drama companies at district towns and other places and these were very popular among the people at that time. There was naturally a great demand for the books of these dramas that were staged and were popular. For example, at the Sangli library, number of Marathi novels, plays, farces issued increased from 1197 in 1912-13 to 4771 in 1920.21. This number remained at 5800 novels and 1271 plays in 1933-34. Books on History and Biography were also read by many people. Out of the total issue, the number of issue of books relating to History and Biography was as follows -

Library.	Year	Biography.	History	Total issues	Percentage of the total issues
BARL	1918	342	297	5867	11
Sangli	1920-21	323	205	8334	6.5

Books relating to Travels and voyages attracted many readers as Indians were curious enough to know the outer world and wanted to know the scientific and other advances made by other countries.

The use of Law books was more at the Kolhapur Native Library. The library allocated specific funds for the purchase of Law books every year in order to fulfil the requirements of the members belonging to legal profession. Consequently 785 English and 775 Marathi Law books were issued to the members in 1907-08. It seems that these members were mostly dependent on library collection and therefore it was used increasingly.

Loss of Books

Books were written off from the records of the libraries from time to time due to poor binding, quality of production and constant handling of books. The percentage of books thus written off was greater in case of Marathi books than the one in English books.

For example, 113 Marathi books (97 plays and Novels, 16 History, biographies) were written off from the records of the Sangli library in 1910[88]. But no English book was written off probably due to non-handling, or less circulation and comparatively better quality of production of English books. The loss of books was also due to the theft of books and non-return of books by members. Some members while discontinuing membership, did not return the books issued to them. This shows the apathy or irresponsible attitude of some of the members towards their duties as members of libraries. Consequnelty some libraries decided to accept deposits for issuing the books out of the Library premises.

Organization and Management of Libraries

The Office-bearers and Members of the Committee of Management

Indians began to be elected as the Presidents of libraries, whereas in the earlier period only the Europeans would be elected as the Presidents. Some of the Presidents thus elected are

Name of the President	Library	Year of Election
Sir K.T.Telang[89]	BBRAS	1892
Shri Rane	Sawantwadi library	22 Jan 1911
Khan Bahadur M.C.Marzban	SMI Bombay	1911.

In the Committee of Management of librarieswith some European members, Indians had the majority. At district towns, all the members were Indians. Among the Indians, in the earlier period, the Brahmins had majority. During this period some members of the Marathe and other caste groups participated in the Committee of Management, either as Secretaries or as Presidents. This could be possible because of the spread of education and political awareness among these caste groups. This happened to be a conspicuous feature especially at the Kolhapur Native Library from 1909 with Shri Bhaskarrao Jadhav as the President and at the Sangli library with Shri Babgonda Bhujgonda Patil as the President from 1924.

According to the Rules of the library, the office-bearers and Members of the Committee of Management were to be

elected at the Annual General Body meeting each year. In many libraries, elections were not held but office-bearers were decided informally and the members were formally elected unopposed at the Annual General Meeting. At the Poona Native General Library, the members of the Committee of Management were nominated by the President as per the Rules of the Library passed in 1891.[90]

However in the first two decades of the twentieth century, members started contesting elections, sometimes forming opposing panels. For example at the Kolhapur Native Library, a dispute was raised in the management on the question of the conduct of elections at the Annual General Meeting held on 28 July 1907 mostly among the Brahmin and Non-Brahmin members[91] which has been described by Shri A.B. Latthe[92] as "the Non-Brahmin revolt". Regarding this dispute, he says "A proportionate share of the seats on theManaging Board was demanded by the non-Brahmin members while their opponents insisted on carrying all the seats with the brute force of their superior number on the Members' list"[93]. Shri Bhaskarrao Jadhav and others lodged protests against the election results and demanded fresh elections.[94] This led to a protracted dispute which ultimately developed into rowdyism and a meeting held on 8 March 1908 under the Presidentship of Mr. (Ganesh Balvant) Modak, an Extremist leader in the Deccan, had to be dispersed by order of the District Magistrate. Finally in the election conducted in

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1909[95], the group of members led by Shri Bhaskarrao Jadhav[96] and A.M. Latthe came into power and remained in office for a long time. Further the Managing Committee, elected in 1911 consisted of members of different castes and religions[97]. This dispute has a social background. In the first decade of the 20th century, the Brahmin - Non-Brahmin movement was launched by the Satyashodhak Samaj and other social groups mostly in the Southern Marathe States like Kolhapur, Sangli, Ichalkaranji. It was pitched against the supremacy of Brahmins in all fields of life - in govt., in administration, in judiciary and in religious matters. At the Kolhapur Native Library, Brahmins had the majority and the members on the Managing Committee were mostly Brahmins since 1868.

Leaders and followers of both the Brahmin and the Non-Brahmin groups were among the members of the library. The social conflict was thus reflected in the management of the library also.

At Poona Native General Library, the system of nomination of members to the Committee of Management by the President was disliked by members and there was a demand for electing the members of the Committee of Management. Therefore the Rules as revised in 1922 included the following amended provision.[98]

> "All election shall be by open voting or by ballot as the General Body may like, the sense of the body being ascertained at the outset by the President without allowing any discussion".

If the library is to be really 'Public' every member should have equal right to participate in the management of the library. Similarly if a particular group remains in power for a long period without taking cognisance of the aspirations of the other groups, the other groups try to gain power even by removing the monopoly of that group. Another noticeable feature is that the members belonging to legal profession have taken keen interest in the management of the library. During the period of political unrest from 1909 to 1921 members belonging to the legal profession shouldered the responsibility of being the office-bearer of libraries. They were not subordinate to government officers and had an independent source of income and could withstand the government pressure.

Rules of the Library

The libraries were managed in accordance with the rules framed at the time of their establishment. These were generally few in number and very broad in scope. On the basis of experience gained, however, detailed rules and byelaws of the library were framed by different libraries, for example at Poona - 1891[99], Sangli - 1896[100], Sargoti - 1899[101], Bhivandi - 1906[102], Pali - 1906[103].

Existing rules of the library were modified, amended or changed by some libraries in order to keep pace with the changing times. For example, rules of the libfaries at the following places were revised in the years mentioned against them. Dhulia - 1903[104] and 1922[105], Kalyan - 1913-16[106],

Kolhapur - 1916[107], Poona - 1922[108], Sangli - 1924[109], Petit Institute, Bombay 1893[110] and 1907[111].

A careful analysis of the changes made in the rules of the libraries shows that the rates of membership subscription have been changed, especially after First World War, because of the increased prices of reading materials and increasing cost of living. Proposals to revise the rates of subscription of lower class members were generally much opposed as the number of lower class members was quite considerable. Consequently the increase in the rates of subscription of the lower classes was only nominal. As compared to that, the increase in the rates of subscription of higher class members was greater. For example, at the Petit Institute, Bombay, rates of subscription of the First Class members were revised from Rs.1-8-0 p.m. to Rs.2/- p.m. but the rates of the Second and the third class members were not changed.

In this process of amendment of rules, we find a constant struggle between the lower class members and the First class members as regards their privileges. Lower class members insisted on having more privileges in respect of the number of books to be issued, the right to vote at the Annual General Body Meeting, and the right to contest the election for membership of the Committee of Management. At the same time, they wanted to restrict or curtail the special ptvileges enjoyed by the higher class members.

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At Sangli, the Fourth Class members who paid As 4/- only as the monthly subscription continued their struggle for more rights for 15 years. They had been striving to have the right to vote at the Annual meeting and the right to contest election to the Committee of Management.

As per rules of the library (1896) only the members of the First three classes were eligible to contest election for the Committee of Management and to vote at the Annual General meeting. Therefore a Fourth class subscriber Shri R.G.Oak applied to the Managing Committee on 7-2-1910 to give the fourth class subscribers the right to vote at the annual general meeting. He justified his demand on the grounds that "all the subscribers are men of status in society, these are educated and belong to professions like traders, merchants and servants employed in different offices"[112].

This demand was not granted. The following remark was passed by the President of the Annual Meeting in which this application was discussed.

> "As the members of the Fourth Class are quite able to pay, it is not expedient to extend the privilege now asked for".

The Third class members paying 8 Annas per month were eligible to vote and hence he expected these members to pay 8 Annas per month if they wanted the right to vote.

The struggle continued further. It seems that in 1916, four representatives of the Fourth Class Members were permitted

to vote at the Annual General Meeting. But the members were not satisfied with these modifications. This struggle took a turn as a conflict between Brahmins and Non-Brahmins. In order to change the existing structure, the non-Brahmin members enrolled new members on an increasing scale. To counteract, Brahmins also enrolled new members increasingly as can be seen from the following table.

Year	No. of Monthly subscribers					Total
	I	II	III	IV	V	
1918/19	24	138	214	2093	110	2693
1920/21	33	139	364	2767	-	3303
1924/25	17	129	1897	2953	-	4996

At the Annual meeting of the Sangli Library held in 1924, newly enrolled 8 annas subscribers crowded at the entrance for being admitted to the meeting. This resulted into a conflict between the office-bearers and others. Police had to be called and the meeting was dispersed and the library was locked.

Thereafter a meeting of Non-Brahmin members was held and Shri Babgonda Bhugonda Patil, Pleader, was elected the Secretary. A Committee to amend the library rules was appointed and clauses safeguarding the interests of the Fourth Class subscribers were incorporated in the amended rules of the library. Following are the important amendments.

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Article 31. Harijans were admitted to the use of the Library. Seven members of the Fourth Class were held eligible to vote at the Annual meeting and to contest election to the Committee of Management.

After the achievement, the number of Third class members decreased as can be observed from the following table:

Year	No. of monthly subscribers				Total
	I	II	III	IV	
1925/26	12	109	967	3257	4345

All these steps are towards democratisation of the libraries and bringing equality among the members. All the classes of members were to be treated on par so far as the right to vote and to hold the office or to be a member of the Committee of Management were concerned.

Efforts were also made to reduce the gap between the privileges enjoyed by the higher class members and those of the lowest class members, especially in respect of issue of books and periodicals.

Admission to Harijans at Sangli and making such a provision in the constitution was a further step inopening the doors to the weaker sections and making the library really public.

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During this period due to the increase in the library book collections, number of members and the number of books and periodicals issued especially in big libraries, the day-to-day work and the internal organisation of the library had to be entrusted to full time and comparatively more educated librarians appointed for this purpose. They also carried out intellectual work entrusted to them from time to time. For example, at the B.B.R.A.S., Ganpatrao K. Tivarekar was the Librarian and Assistant Secretary during 1892-1905. He compiled the catalogues of the library from time to time and wrote historical account of the Society for a century at the time of Centenary Celebrations of the Society. Shri P.B. Gothoskar[115] who followed Tivarekar was an Arts Graduate and shouldered this responsibility for a quarter of a century (1904-1930). He compiled the General Catalogue of the library during 1914-1921 containing about 1 lakh volumes. He also represented the Bombay Government at the All India Conference of Librarians held at Lahore from 4th to 8th January 1918. Shri Sadanand Kapadi[116] a Science Graduate who succeeded Gothoskar, started his career as Assistant Librarian in the B.B.R.A.S. in 1916 and managed the affairs of the library till his retirement in 1951.

Librarians were assisted by clerical and menial staff. The expenditure on library establishment was constantly increasing due to the growth of the Libraries, the appointment of additional staff therein and increase in their salary scales.

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At district towns and other places, comparatively less educated, poorly paid clerks assisted by menial staff executed the day-to-day work of the library.

Only the professionally qualified library staff can provide library service to the satisfaction of the readers. The professional work cannot be satisfactorily carried out by the Honorary office-bearers of the libraries. In spite of their enthusiasm to do the work voluntarily, they fail to provide consistently efficient service. It can be expected only from the full-time, well-paid staff. This has been realised during this period.

Persons who led the Library Movement

Various individuals have contributed to the progress and development of public libraries in the Western Maharashtra.

The J.N.Petit Institute, Bombay, remained the most prosperous institution in the Western Maharashtra. This progress was achieved under the Presidentship of Sir Dinshaw Manockeji Petit[116A], Second Baronet and Vice Presidents Rustomjee M. Patel (1898-1909)[116B] and Sorabjee Eduljee Wardea (1910-1935)[117], men of eminence at that time in Bombay.

During this period, 1909 to 1913, when the question of the registration of libraries with the Director of Public Instruction, arose, Sir Dinshaw M. Petit along with Sir Pherozshah M. Mehta communicated the feelings of Indians to

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the Government from time to time, declined to surrender to the Government pressure and finally found out practical alternatives in the situation in the broader interest of the library.

The Library flourished due to the devotion, care and supervision of the Honorary Secretaries Mr. Jeejeebhoy P. Mistry 1898-1913,[118] Mr. Sorebjee B. Dadyburjor, Advocate 1913-1944[119] and Honorary Treasurers Ardeshir P. Sethna[120] 1898-1904[120] and Mr. Rustomjee B. Jeejeebhoy 1905-1922[121].

The Bombay Native General Library made steady progress under the Presidentship of Sir Pherozeshah M. Mehta[122], Sir Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy[123], Baronet and Vice-President Sir Bhalchandra Krishna Bhatavadekar[124].

The Library flourished due to care, activities and energetic supervision of the Honorary Secretary Mr. N. P. Pavri[125] Deputy Registrar of the Presidency Small Causes Court.

At the Poona Native General Library, after the death of Justice Mahadeo Govind Ranade, the first President of the library in 1901, Dr. Sir Ramkrishna Gopal Bhandarkar[126], the eminent Scholar and Orientalist worked as the President of the Library from 1901 to 1925. He was already the Vice-President of the library from 1891 to 1901.

Diwan Bahadur Keshinath Ramchandra Godbole[127] followed Bhandarkar from 1925 to 1937. He was a member of the Committee of Management since 1903 and the Vice-President from 1917

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to 1925. Rao Bahadur Sitaram Vishwanath Patwardhan, former Director of Public Instruction in the Central Provinces worked as the Vice President from 1909 to 1916.

The Library was fortunate to have continuously for a period of 20 years Shri Ramchandra Bhasker Palande, Head Clerk in the Female High School, first as the Joint Secretary (1896-97) and then as the Secretary from 1901 to 1919. He struggled hard to increase the membership which was hampered due to the occurrence of plague in Poona.

Among the members of the Committee of Management, we find eminent journalists, Marathi authors, scholars, politicians and prominent men in other fields of that period in Maharashtra like Hari Narayan Apte,[128] Marathi Novelist and Editor, Karmarkar, Shri K.P.Khadilkar[129], Journalist and Marathi playwright, Prof. S.M.Paranjape[130] Journalist and Marathi Author, V.G.Apte[131], Marathi Author and Editor 'Anand' magazine for children, R.B.Kashinath Narayan Sane[132], Scholar and Historian, K.C.Kelkar[133], Journalist, Politician and versatile Marathi author.

At Dhulia, Dhondo Shamrao Garud[134], Solicitor, assisted the Library from 1893 tillhis death in 1903. He was the President of the Library from 1896 to 1900. A donation in his memory enabled the library to construct the library building and the name of the Library was changed to Dhondo Shamrao Garud Library. His son Siddhadeo Dhonddeo Garud[135], a member

of Bombay Legislative Council, raised the question of registration of libraries in the Council and tried to remove the injustice done by Government Officials to libraries during 1910-13. He also worked as the President of the Library from 1923 to 1930. Baburao Ramchandra Rensingh[136], pleader was associated with the working of the library for more than 50 years as Chief Secretary 1907-10, 1915, Joint Secretary, 1914, Vice-President 1932-33, President 1933-37. He was present on the occasion of celebration of the centenary of the Library in 1956.

At Malegaon, Shri Bhagavant Moreshwar Kulkarni, worked as the Secretary for more than 9 years satisfactorily. He completed the work of building repairs. He was felicitated with a Roll of Honour and his photograph was displayed in the library hall by a resolution passed at the General Meeting held on 4-2-1899. At Jalgaon, Shri Abasaheb Mhalas worked as the Secretary for more than 22 years.

At Barsi, persons belonging to the legal profession led the library. Shri R.G.Sane worked as the President from 1917 to 1926 while Shri E.B.Vaidya and Shri Utgiker worked as the Secretary from 1917 to 1919 and 1920 to 1925 respectively. Shri Moreshwar Vasudeo Kerve, pleader, managed the affairs of the Bhivandi Native General Library upto 1917.

At Kolhapur Native Library, Shri Bhaskarrao Vithojirao Jadhav, Pleader and the Revisionist Leader of the Non-Brahmin

movement, played leading part in changing the power structure of the library during the dispute in 1907-1908. In 1909 he became President of the Library and continued to hold that office for a long time, upto 1920. He visited Baroda Libraries in 1913-14 and introduced the card system for circulation of books. The library collection was classified according to the classification scheme, followed in the Baroda Library. Under his supervision, Catalogue of English books was published in 1910 and reading hall of the library was constructed in 1920.

At Sangli City library, Dr.Hari Krishna Deo, the President of the Executive Council from 1908 to 1913 made efforts to purchase land for library building and completed the building construction work in 1912.

Shri Krishnaji Govind Limaye, Secretary of the Library from 1910-1913 collected data on various aspects of the use of books and tried to add new books as per his findings. He was methodical in his work and maintained the library records systematically.

Shri M.K.Athavale[137], Pleader, worked as Secretary of the Library from 1914 to 1922. He collected statistics regarding issue of books, compiled annual reports in detail, designed schemes regarding use of reference books, newspaper files and backvolumes of magazines for reference in the library, extended library working hours to 12 hours a day from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. This was for the benefit of merchants and traders.

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Periodicals from all parts of India were selected so as to gain information from all parts of the country. As directed by the Chief of Sangli State, he visited Baroda Libraries and submitted his report on the proposal to start mobile library service in the State.

At Ichalkaranji, Shri Rambhau Apte[138], Pleader, took leading part in the development of Ichalkaranji Native General Library. He himself purchased land for library building and started efforts for construction of the building. As he could not succeed in this project, construction of the library building was completed by the State Government in 1886. In the meanwhile he died. Thereafter the library was named after Late Shri Rambhau Apte as Apte Vachan Mandir.

This brief survey shows that Indians took keen interest in the establishment and development of Native General Libraries during this period. It is further observed that besides educationists and teachers, journalists, editors of magazines, Marathi Authors and Scholars took great interest in the development of Native General Libraries in Maharashtra. Besides, Brahmins, Leaders from Maratha caste group took interest in the promotion of library activities. On the other hand, as compared to the interest taken by Europeans upto 1867, the interest taken by the Britishers in the development of Native General Libraries during this period appeared to be dwindling.

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7. GR ED No.2037 of 14-10-1909 in GR 1909 Vol.66. Comp. No.385, p.393.

8. By the Collector of Sukkur dated 10 March 1910. In GR Education Dept. No.770 dated 25 April 1910 (GB 1910 Vol.86 Comp. 853 p. 33).

9. By the Director of Public Instruction at Poona. Mr.S.M.Sharp in his letter No.10855 of 1909-10. Several of the native libraries had declined to accept the rules issued by GR in ED or to supply information asked for, on the ground that no orders have been issued in Political Department. In ED 1910 Vol. 50. Comp. No.268 p.219.

10. GR in Educ. Dept. No.770 dated 25 April 1910. In GD 1910. Vol.86. Comp. 853, p.33.

11. Political Department Circular No.1854 dated 23 March 1910 inviting attention of the Political Agents in the rules prescribed in GR 2037 dated 14 Oct 1909. In ED 1910. Vol.50. Comp. No.278. Libraries. Part I. p.219.

12. Kolhapur, Gadahinglaj, Miraj, Sawantwadi, ED 1910. Vol.50 Comp. 268. Part I. p.220.

13. GR Education Dept. No.2234 dated 18 Nov. 1910. ED 1910 Vol.50 pp. 243-244.

14. GR ED 2234 of 18 Nov.1910. In ED 1910 Vol.50,pp.243-244.

15. ED 1910 Vol.50 pp.245-255.

16. ED 1910 Vol.59 Comp. 389. pp.45-47.

17. Journal of the proceedings of the Legislative Council of the Governor of Bombay 1911. Vol.XLIX. Bombay 1912. 26 January 1911 meting. p.10. Question No.7. Will Govt. be pleased to lay on table a list of papers ordered to be excluded from aided and registered libraries, and in GD 1911 Vol.42. pp.185-186.

18. Ibid.

19. RDPI 1909-10 pp. 44-45

20 RDPI 1902-03 p.77

21. RDPI 1908-09 p.41

22. RDPI 1910-11. p.9.

23 GR Education Dept. No. 3327 dated 11th December 1911 IN GD 1912 Vol.92. p.26-30. (All these instances on the basis of which this GR was issued have been included in this GR).

24 GR Educational Dept. No.3327 dated 11th December 1911. IN GD 1912 Vol.92. p.30-31.

25 GD 1912 Vol.92 p.31.

26 GD 1912 Vol.38 p.55.

27 JN Petit Institute. Managing Committee. Minute Book Speech of D.M.Petit, President of the Library at the Annual General Meeting held on 30 March 1912.

28.GD 1912 Vol.92. p.65. GR No.4167 GD dated 1 July 1912. Letter from the Secretary of the JN Petit Institute.

29 Proceedings of the Annual General Meeting 27 March 1913. Report of the Managing Committee for the year ended 31 December 1912.

30 Baburao Ramchandra Ransingh. 50 Varsha Purviche Garud Vachanalaya - Kahi Smriti Shelaka. Sahitya Sahakara April 1956. pp. 11-12.

31 Sarvajanik Vachanalaya, Kalyan, 1969 Smaranika. p.11.

32. Kesari, Tuesday 30 July 1918.

33 GD 1912. Vol.38. p.33.

34.GR No.311 Education Dept. dated 1st Feb.1912 IN GD 1912 Vol.92 p.47.

35.Proceedings of the Legislative Council of the Governor of Bombay. 1912. Vol.L. Bombay 1913. p.5.

36. Ibid. 1911. Vol.XLIX. Bombay 1912. p.10-12, 36.

37. ED 1912 Vol.38. p.237. Question No.24.

38. Press note No.8163 GD 29 November 1912 Ed 1912 Vol.38 p.239. GD 1912 Vol.92, p.19.

39. GR No.309 dated 1st Feb. 1912 in Education Dept. in GD 1912 Vol.92 p.45.

40 GR Education Dept. 1280 dated 23 May 1912.

41 Khareghat, Muncherji Pestonji (18 Dec 1864 - 2 July 1943) ICS (1892). Held positions in British Administration from 1894-1910. Sessions Judge in Ratnagiri 1907-1910. Connected with Parsi Panchayat Funds, since 1911. President 1934.

42. M.P.Khareghat Memorial Volume Vol.1. 1953 p. 9. and Ratnagiri Nagar Vachanalaya Itihasa va Vrittanta 1961 p. 7.

43. Sholapur Native Library. Report 1914-15.

44. Jnana-dipa,Sangli (Jilha) Nagar Vachanalaya. Shatasamvatsarik Mahotsava 1969. Smaranika p.30. Appendix 5. Sangli Gazette 7 March 1910.

45. Bhave, Laxman Keshav. Ed. Pali Sarvajanik Vachanalaya Panchavis Varshacha Itihasa va Raupya-mahotsavacha Vrittanta. 1932. p.24. Extract from the Bhor State Gazette.

46. Ibid. p.7.

47. RDPI 1913-14. p.35.

48. Library Miscellany. Vol.6. Issue 3-4 July-October 1919 p. 56.

49. Letter to the Deputy Educational Inspector. Thana No. 786 dated 12-1-1921. In ED 1921 Vol.268. p.21.

50. ED 1921. Vol.268. p.21.

51. GR ED 1451 dated 12 March 1921.

52. ED 1921 Comp. 268. p.33

53. Report on Public Instruction 1920-21. p.34.

54. ED 1921 No. 268. p.43.

55. Bombay Government. A Review of Education in Bombay State, 1855-1955. 1958. p. 507.

56. RDPI 1927-28. p.148.

57. GR ED No.3190 of 20-11-1928.

58.

Year of change	Name of the Library	Name changed as
1920	Native General Library Malegaon.	Malegaon Nagar Sarvajanik Vachanalaya.
1921 23 Oct	Poona Native General Library	Poona City General Library - - Pune Nagar Vachan Mandir.
1927	Native General Library Gargoti	Shri Shahu Vachanalaya Gargoti.
1934	Native General Library, Vengurla	Nagar Vachanalaya, Vengurla.
1937	Native General Library Ratnagiri	Nagar Vachanalaya Ratnagiri
1938	Native General Library Satara (1853) Satara City General Library (1866) Satara Victoria Library (1901)	Nagar Vachanalaya Satara.
1938 26 Mar.	Native General Library Rajapur	Nagar Vachanalaya, Rajapur.

59. JN Petit Institute, Annual Report for the year 1898 IN Minute Book. Minutes of the General Meeting, 15th May 1893 to 31 March 1922.

60. BNGL Report for the year 1918.

61. Apte Vachan Mandir, Ichalkaranji. Annual Report for the year 1932.

62. Marathe, M.S. Sangli (Jilha) Nagar Vachanalayacha Sankshipta Itihasa. p.13.

63. Remark of the Secretary dated 17 May 1924 on application of Shri S.K.Tirmare for membership from May 1924. Application filed with the minutes of the annual meeting, 30 August 1924.

64. Minutes of Annual Meeting of the Sangli Library held on 30 August 1924.

65. Letter from Secretary of the Sangli Library dated 16 June 1978. Honoured on 17 Feb. 1973 as per resolution of the Executive Counil No.88 dated 24 January 1973. (Shri Tirmare died 27 April 1978)

66. Apte Wachan Mandir, Ichalkaranji. Annual Report, 1932.

67. The Jamsetjee Nesserwanjee Petit Institute, Golden Jubilee 1898-1948. Record of half a century of progress. p.29.

68. Sangli City Library. Rules of the Library (1898) In Marathe, M.S. op. cit. p.15.

69. Ibid. p.16. (Original letter not traceable now).

70. Ibid. p.17. and Proceedings of the Annual meeting held on 30 August 1924.

71. Bhuleshwar Library. Principal rules. Rule 3 In The Bhuleshwar Library. Catalogue of books. New Edn. 1895. p.v.

72. United Native General Library and Gymkhana Institution, Sawantwadi 2 Sept. 1903. Managing Committee meeting Minutes. Proceedings Book 1897-1913.

73. Kolhapur Native Library 1894-95. Report, Resolution 9.

74. United NGL and Gymkhana Institution, Sawantwadi. Subscription Book 1899-1900.

75. Dhondo Shamrao Garud Library. Annual Report 1920. New Rules Printed 1922.

76. United NGL and Gymkhana Institution, Sawantwadi. Annual General Meeting. Proceedings Book 1910-1925. Annual General Meeting. 15 July 1922. Proceedings.

Class of Members	Rate of Subs.	Increase in Rates
I and II	Rs 2 and 1	50 %
III	As 8	25 %
IV	As 4	50 %

77. The JN Petit Institute. Annual report. 1899. The JN Petit Institue, Golden Jubilee 1856-1956. p.15.

78. Information collected from the annual reports of libraries.

79. ED 1920 Comp. No. 244. Census of Libraries in India 1 BBRAS Lib.

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80. General Catalogue of the Library of the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society. Revised and brought upto the end of 1915 by P.B.Gothoskar, B.A. Bombay Society's Library, Town Hall,1917. Part I. Authors. (Preface - The present edition of the Catalogue is a revised and enlarged edition of the last catalogue published in 1875 which itself was a reprint of an edition issued twelve years before, with the addition of books purchased in the interval. Annual supplements published since 1875. Present catalogue contains books (except those on the fiction shelves) upto the end of 1915. 1003 p.

81. Ibid. Revised and brought upto the end of 1917. Part II. Subjects 1922. (2), iv. 1248 (2) p.

82. Muzumder, V.B. (Comp.) A narrative of the development and achievement of the Bombay Branch Royal Asiatic Society,1954. pp. 43-48.

83. Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society. A descriptive catalogue of Sanskrit and Prakrit Manuscripts in the Library of the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, Bombay BBRAS 1926. London. Arthur Probsthain. 500 p.2073 entries.
Vol.I Technical Literature,
Vol.II Hindu literature.
Vol.III Jain literature. Appendix A Buddhist manuscripts Sanskrit,Prakrit, Hindi, Gujarathi Mss.

84. Modi, Jivanji Jamshedji. A glimpse into the work of the BBRA Society during the last 100 years. From a Parsee point of view. 1905.

85. The Bombay Native General Library. Catalogue of books in the Bombay Native General Library, Bombay 1898. (Includes Fiftieth Annual Report of the BNGL). 8300 books in 1895, 10000 sets of volumes in 1898.

86. Information given by Shri M.K.Athavale, Sangli, Secretary of the Library,1913-1921 in an interview with the author.

87. Marathe, M.S. op.cit.p.14.

88. Sangli General Library, Annual report for the year 1910.

89. Telang, Sir Kashinath Trimbak (1850-1893). BBRAS Member 1874. Member, Committee of Management, 1878. Vice-President 1887. President 1892-93.

90. Rules and Byelaws passed at a General Meeting of the subscribers held on 30 August 1891. 14 printed pages p.3. Rule 14. In Shrigondekar, Ganesh Narahar. op. cit. p.74.

91. Kolhapur Native Library. Varshik Report 1907/08.

92. Latthe, Prof. Anna Babaji (1878-). M.A. LL.B. Professor of English, Rajaram College, Kolhapur 1907-11. Diwan of Kolhapur, Maharaja 1926-30. Member, Indian Council, 1921-23. President Southern Maratha Jain Association, Karnataka Non-Brahmin League.
Books - Introduction to Jainism.

93. Latthe, A.B. Memoirs of His Highness Shri Shahu Chhatrapati Maharaja of Kolhapur Vol. 1. 1924. p.329. The Native Library Dispute (Out of the 482 members, Brahmins had majority).

94. Kolhapur Native Library, Karnik Patravyavahara 1907-08. Application dated 14 August 1907 signed by about 47 members including Bhaskarrao Jadhav, A.B. Latthe.

95. Kolhapur Native Library, Varshik Report 1908-09.

96. Jadhav, Bhaskarrao Vithojirao (1867-1950). B.A. (1892) Elphinstone College. M.A. LL.B. Pleader, Member of Satyashodhak Samaj founded by Jotirao Phuley. Served the Kolhapur State from 1895-1921 in various capacities including Revenue Minister. Considered second best builder of Kolhapur State. Minister of Health and Education 1923-28. Agriculture, Excise and Forest Minister (1928) in the Govt. of Bombay. Founded Maratha Shikshan Parishad (1909). Retired from Active Politics in 1930's.
Books - (1) Ramayanavar Nava Prakash.
(2) Marathe and tyanchi bhashe. Mumbai MG Anniversary (1931). Presidential speech.

97. Shri Yashwant Krishna Dilvar, Secretary, 1909.
Prof. Anna Babaji Latthe, Secretary 1910-14.
Rev. Shi Masooji Secretary 1911-1912.
Prof. Mahadeo Ganesh Dongre, Vice President, 1911.

98. Poona Native General Library. Rules of the Library (1922) Rule No. 19. Reproduced in Shrigondekar, Ganesh Narhar op.cit. p.89.

99. Poona Native General Library. Rules of the Library (1891) 39 rules and 19 byelaws In Shrigondekar G.N. op.cit. pp. 64-90.

100. Marathe, M.S. op.cit. p.14.

101. Shri Shahu Vachanalaya Gargoti. Pauna Shatakache Itihasa 1876-1951. p.12. Rules framed in the meeting held on 2 July 1899.

102. Vachan Mandir, Bhivandi, Jilha Thane. Eka Shatakachi Vatchala 1963. p.3.

103. Bhave, Laxman Keshav. Ed. op.cit. p.3 (1906 Rules). 21 rules (1924).

104. Joshi Mo Ra. Dhondo Shamrao Garud Library, Dhule, 100 Varshanche tretak vrittante p.4. (Rules revised at the annual meeting held on 25 January 1903).

105. Dhondo Shamrao Garud Library, Dhulia. Report for the year 1922 (New Rules printed in 1922).

106. Sarvajanik Vachanalaya, Kalyan. Suvarna Mahotsava 1935. p.11.

107. Kolhapur Native Library. Rules (Niyama). Passed on 16 July 1916. Prepared by Vasudev Raghunathe Rege and Sidramayya Gadagayya Swami.

108. Poona Native General Library. Rules of the Library passed at the annual general meeting held on 23 Oct 1921, 1922. 55 Rules, 24 byelaws. In Shrigondekar G.N. op.cit. pp. 64-90.

109. Sangli General Library. Proceedings of the annual meeting held on 30 Aug 1924.

110. JN Petit Port Reading Room and Library, Bombay. Rules and Regulations (passed at a special general meeting held on the 15th of May 1893).

111. Petit Institute, Special General Meeting, held on 13 April 1907. In General Meeting, Minute Book 1893-1922.

112. Marathe, M.S. op.cit. p.16. and Sangli General Library, Annual Report for the year 1909-10.

113. Ibid. p.16-17.

114. Sangli General Library. Proceedings of the Annual Meeting held on 30 August 1924.

115. Gothaskar, Pandurang Bhaskar (6 August 1873 -25 July 1943) Matric (1891), B.A. Started career in BBRAS in 1904. Retired 1930.

116. Kapadi, Sadanand Lakshman (6 July 1891 - 16 Feb. 1967) B.Sc. Asstt. Librarian 1916-30. Librarian 1930-1951.

116A Petit, Sir Dinshaw M. Second Baronet, (1873-1933) President 1898-1933. Trustee J.N. Petit Institute.

116B. Petel, Rustomjee M. (1909) M.A.LL.B., J.P. Vice President 1898-1909. Trustee, J.N.Petit Institute.

117. Merden, Sorebjee Eduljee (1848-1933). Vice President 1910-1933. Trustee, J.N.Petit Institute.

118. Mistry, Jeejeebhoy, P. (1859-1913). M.A. Hon.Secretary 1898-1913. Trustee, J.N.Petit Institute.

119. Dadyburjor, Sorabji B. (1875-1944). B.A.LL.B. Advocate. Hon. Secretary, 1913-1944. Trustee, J.N.Petit Institute.

120. Sethna, Ardeshir, P. (1837-1904). Hon. Treasurer 1898-1904. Trustee, J.N.Petit Institute.

121. Rustomjee, B. Jeejeebhoy (1864-1922). Hon.Treasurer 1905-1922. Trustee, J.N.Petit Institute.

122. Mehta, Sir Pherozeshah M. (10 Dec 1915) Chairman, Managing Committee BNGL (- 1915).

123. Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy, Baronet. Chairman, Managing Committee BNGL (1916-) Succeeded Sir P.M.Mehta.

124. Bhatavadekar, Sir Bhalchandra Krishna (- 1922) Vice-President, BNGL (1918).

125. Pavri, N.P. M.A.LL.B. Deputy Registrar of the Presidency, Small Causes Court.

126. Bhandarkar, Dr.Sir Ramkrishna Gopal (1838-1925). Graduate of the First Batch of Bombay University, Teacher and later Professor of Sanskrit. Retired (1893). An educationist, Sanskrit Savant, Reformer and a Revivalist. Member, BBRAS, Contributed to Society's Journal. Gave first series of Wilson Philological Lectures, Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute opened on 6 July 1917.

127. Godbole, Kashinath Ramchandra (1848-1937). Diwan Bahadur B.A. (1869). Engg. Exam. (1872). Engineer.Civil Service 30 years. Constructed Railway Lines, Executed Electricity Supply Schemes at Poona. Chairman, Shikshan Prasarak Mandali, Deccan Educ. Society, Maharashtra Educ. Society. Poona NGL - connected from 1894-1937. Born one day earlier than the date of establishment of the Library and hence called one day elder than the Poona NGL.

128. Apte, Hari Narayan (1864-1919). Marathi Novelist. Called Walter Scott of Marathi Literature. Editor Karmanuk Magazine. Thane, M.G.Anniversary (10) (1903) President.

129. Khadilkar, Krishnaji Prabhakar (1872-1948). B.A. (1892) LL.B. Teacher. High School, Sangli 1892-94. Entered Kesari Office 1897. Editor, Kesari 1908-10. Associate of B.G.Tilak 1910-18. Left Kesari in 1920. Editor, Naval Kal, Bombay. Marathi Dramatist First Drama (1903), Mumbai M.G.Anniversary (28) (1927) President, Poona NGL - Trustee.

130. Paranjape, Prof. Shivaram Mahadeo. (1864-1929). Disciple of B.G.Tilak and Guru of V.D.Savarkar. Journalist, Editor 'Kal' Weekly 1898-1910. Author. President, Marathi Sahitya Sammelan 1928. Orator. Thane MG Anniversary (7) (1900). President Mumbai MG Anniversary (29) (1928).

131. Apte, Vasudeo Govind. B.A. Editor, 'Anand' Magazine for Children, Marathi author.

132. Bane, Kashinath Narayan (1850-1927). Rao Bahadur, Historian. Editor, Kavyetihasa Samgraha. Jan 1878-Dec. 1888. Thane, M.G.Anniversary (24) (1917). President.

133. Kelkar, Narasimha Chintaman (1874-1947). B.A. LL.B. Editor, The Kesari, The Mahratta, the Sahyadri. President, INCL 1937-38. Mumbai MG Anniversary (33) (1933). President, Thane MG Anniversary (28) (1927). President.

134. Garud, Dhondo Shamrao (1845-1903). Solicitor and Social Worker. Chief Justice Indore State 4 years. Practice at Bombay 1886-1893. J.P. Residence at Dhulia 1893-1903. Elected at Bombay Council, 1898. President of the Dhulia NGL 1896-1900.

135. Garud, Siddhanath Dhondadeo. MLC. Leader of Khandesh. Chief Secretary, 1903. President 1923-1930, Dhondo Shamrao Garud Library.

136. Haburao Ramchandra Hansingh. (189 -195) B.A. LL.B. Pleader, Dhulia.

137. Athavale, Mahadeo Keshav (1889-) M.A. LL.B. Pleader Educ. Sangli High School, Sangli, Deccan College, Poona. Law College, Bombay. Address - Athavale Wada Ganabhag, Sangli.

138. Apte, Rambhau (1896) Pleader, Ichalkranji.

Chapter 9
Conclusions

A Growth of Libraries

In 1804, the Literary Society of Bombay was established and its library was started in 1805 which marks the beginning of the library movement in the Western Maharashtra. From 1805 to 1921, the library movement spread over to about 146 towns in the Western Maharashtra. About 227 libraries were providing library services in 1921.

The rate of growth of libraries was comperatively slow during the first fifty years as only 5 Station libraries and 22 Native libraries were newly established upto 1855. During the next 25 years, the growth was rapid as about 100 libraries were providing library services at about 75 towns in 1880. This period, therefore, may be called as the period of expansion. The same rate of growth seems to have been maintained during the next 40 years. About 160 libraries and reading rooms were established during this period.

The growth of libraries at Bombay and Poona was more rapid than at other towns. Bombay and Poona had 34 and 30 libraries respectively in 1920. The number of towns which could run more than one library in a town was not more than 15.

Due to the increase in the population and the expansion of these towns, it was not possible for only one library to cater to the needs of all the people residing in distant localities of a town. Similarly due to the spread of education, the number of educated people in these towns increased. Number of persons in various

professions and in Government employment also increased. They had better and regular income as compared to the persons in other towns. All these factors contributed to the development of libraries in these towns. These facts also indicate the necessity of establishing more public libraries in different parts of a town to cater to the needs of various social groups in these big population clusters.

Majority of the libraries established during this period extended their services to the people continuously for years. This shows that people's interest in the libraries was being developed, may be due either to the influence of the officers (especially upto 1880) or to the enthusiasm of the office-bearers of these libraries (especially after 1880). Other factors like the publication of reading materials in regional languages, spread of education, employment opportunities to the educated in Govt services and in educational institutions, contact with the govt officials, and rise of Indian nationalism might have also proved helpful in this respect.

Continuity of the libraries is a step towards their stability. At least some of the libraries established during this period had a stable foundation. Tables showing the position of libraries during 1880 and 1920 show that there was an overall increase in the number of members, number of reading materials acquired and used and the amounts of income and expenditure.

An outstanding progress was made by some libraries. Construction of library buildings of their own has

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contributed to the continuity and stability of most of the libraries.

B Landmarks in the Development of Libraries

Important landmarks in the history of the public library movement, indicating the special feature of each landmark, and the distinguishing characteristics of the categories of public libraries evolved during this period have been described hereafter.

Landmark No.1 Literary Society of Bombay Library

Firm foundation of the library of the Literary Society of Bombay was laid down upto 1830, as it acquired permanent rooms in the Town Hall. The library possessed a good collection of books in all branches of knowledge, replenished with fresh books and newspapers each year. The financial position was sound due to the high amount of subscription for members and subscribers. The Society was managed on democratic principles and according to the rules of the library. It was composed of elites of Bombay-all Europeans. The library was used extensively by its members as most of them were learned and devoted to scholarship.

But this activity was not purely a library activity. Library was an adjunct to the Literary Society of Bombay. Upto 1840 membership of the Society was restricted to Europeans only. High amount of subscription for members as well as for subscribers prohibited many from becoming the members of the Society and to take advantage of the library facilities. Thus the needs of Britishers of the higher income group, especially residing in Bombay, were considered and fulfilled by this library. The rule prescribing the use of

'ballot' for admission as members was criticized by Indians and enlightened Europeans also.

Landmark No.2 The Station Libraries

The Libraries established at civil and military stations in the Bombay Presidency from 1821 onwards met with the needs of the Britishers residing at these stations where reading material in the English language was made available at comparatively lower rates of subscription than those of the Literary Society of Bombay. The number of members was few and the libraries were managed according to the Rules of the library.

Thus from 1804 to 1830, libraries meant exclusively for the Europeans, were established.

Landmark No.3 The Bombay General Library (1830)

As a sharp reaction towards the policy of the Literary Society of Bombay regarding non-admission to Indians as members and its high amount of subscription, the Bombay General Library was established on two principles (1) General in nature i.e. admission was open to all without any distinction of caste, creed etc and (2) Economic in its scale i.e. the rate of subscription should be suitable for payment by persons of different income groups.In this library both the Europeans and the Indians, for the first time came together to fulfil their longfelt need to have a public library. It focussed the attention on the problem of admission of Indians to the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society and paved the way for establishment of public libraries for Indians during the later period.

Landmark No. 4 The Bombay Native General Library

Three aspects of a Native General Library were brought to the notice for the first time in the foundation of the Ahmednagar Native Library (1) It was established for the Indians. (2) Reading material in the regional languages was sought, and (3) Cheap rate of subscription was stipulated for membership. All these features can be noticed in the Bombay Native General Library which was established in 1845. Minimum rate of subscription, Annas 4 for membership, was levied on the due consideration of the needs of the Indians whose income was generally low.

The amalgamation of the Students' Dnyanaprasarak Library with the Native General Library, Bombay, harbingered the necessity of opening a vernacular section in the library to fulfil the needs of the Indians knowing only the regional languages. This library proved as a model for other native libraries in respect of framing the rules of the library, the pattern of membership with varying amounts of subscription and privileges, liberal rules for admission of members etc.

Landmark No.5 Native General Libraries at District Towns

The acceptance of the proposals of Captain French, the Acting Resident of Baroda, to start native libraries in the Bombay Presidency, by the Govt of Bombay gave an impetus to the spread of library movement at district towns in the Western Maharashtra. For the first time, the Govt of Bombay recognised the need to establish native libraries. With this encouragement the library movement spread over to about 75 towns in the Western Maharashtra by the end of 1880.

The period from 1881 to 1921 is marked by the following three important landmarks.

Landmark No.6 Libraries of Marathi Books

Thane Marathi Granthasangrahalaya established in 1893 aimed at the collection of all the Marathi books and periodicals at one place and gave a new dimension to the library movement. The needs of the research workers were considered for the first time by this library. Dividing the library collection into two branches, the Sangrahalaya Branch and the Vachanalaya Branch, keeping a contact with the Marathi authors by inviting them at the Anniversary meetings, admitting outstation members, are some of the special features of this library. Libraries were established at Bombay and Poona on the similar lines later on. As observed by Shanker Ganesh Date, these libraries have preserved at least 50% of the Marathi books published in India upto 1937.

Landmark No.7 Free Reading Rooms and Libraries

Establishment of Free Reading Rooms and Libraries was a step towards popularising the libraries among the masses, the working class people, the students and the people who had not the ability to pay even the lowest rate of subscription. Though the inspiration to start the free libraries came from the Baroda Library movement, these libraries were established, financed and managed by the people themselves, without any encouragement or aid from the Govt. These were an expression of the nationalistic and social service attitude developed during this period. These were established mostly to

oppose the restrictions laid down by the Govt of Bombay upon the public libraries.

Landmark No.8 Library Association

With the foundation of the Maharashtra Free Reading Rooms and Libraries Association in 1921, the library movement entered into another phase of library development. So far, all the libraries had made progress individually with the efforts of its members. With the establishment of a Library Association, all the libraries had evolved a common platform to come together, to discuss problems of mutual interest, and paved the way for contacts and cooperation among the libraries. They realised the need to organise under one banner and emerged as a corporate body. By inviting the distinguished leaders of the society to promote the activities of the association, the attention of the society could be focussed on the problems of public libraries in Maharashtra.

Thus within a period of 115 years, we find a transformation in the character of the public library from a library as an Institute catering to the needs especially of the Europeans of higher income group to a library as an organisation catering to the needs of all categories of Indians without any ability to pay the subscription, thus making the library movement a movement for the masses.

C Changing Character of the Libraries

These libraries have undergone changes during the period under study in various ways and aspects. The nature, the direction and the causes of change have been discussed in details in the Chapters 5 to 8 under the following headings :

(1) Aims and objects of the libraries (2) Members and their privileges (3) Reading materials and the use of the Library (4) Library Finance (5) Organization and management of libraries and (6) Persons who led the library movement.

The analysis of this discussion indicates some changes in the character and certain aspects of libraries. These changes can be briefly enumerated as follows :

(1) Foundation, Aims and Objects of the Libraries

During the first half of the period under study, the lead to establish native libraries has been taken by enlightened British people whereas in the latter half of the period under study, Indians have taken lead to establish libraries. Among the Indians, young people have made major contribution to the cause of the establishment of libraries of Marathi books, Free Reading Rooms and libraries.

In the former period, the aim of establishment of Native General Libraries was taken to be the spread of education (especially knowledge of Europe) and to supply reading material to the newly educated people in order to help them to continue their education. During the latter period, meant the spread of nationalistic education
spread of education/and therein the requirements of Indians knowing English as well as the regional languages were given more consideration.

(2) Members and their Privileges

(a) Admission to Libraries

In the early years of the 19th century, libraries meant exclusively for the Europeans were established. With the establishment of Native General Libraries, both the Europeans and the Indians came together for the common cause. An Indian could be admitted to the BBRAS as its member only in 1840. Even in the Native General Libraries, Harijans (then known as the untouchable) could not be admitted. It was only in 1924 that a the first Harijan Member, Shri S.K.Timmere was admitted to the Sangli library. It is an indication of social change that Shri Timmere was awarded Honorary Membership of the library in 1973. However, these libraries were open to subscribers only. With the establishment of Free Reading Rooms, the libraries were thrown open even to those people who had not the ability to pay even the lowest rate of subscription.

(b) Categories of Membership

The members were categorised into different classes such as the First Class, Second Class, Third Class, Subscribers or Students class with varying rates of subscription and privileges. In this categorization, the social structure seems to have been taken into consideration. The Hindu society has been stratified into different castes with a hierarchy. Similarly there is a large variation in the income received, in the levels of education, the aptitude for reading among the Indian people. There is a tendency among the higher class people to keep the a lower class people at a distance.

This social structure has been reflected in the categorization of members into various classes with the higher rates of subscription for higher class members enabling them to enjoy some additional privileges.

On the contrary we find only one rate of subscription to all the members where Europeans had a majority such as the BBRAS and the SMI. The same feature is discernible in the libraries of Marathi books at Thane and Bombay as they had only one class of ordinary members.

C The Rates of Subscription

As compared to the rates of subscription prescribed by the libraries meant exclusively for the Europeans, cheaper rates of subscription ranging from As 4 to Re 2 per month were fixed by the Native General Libraries meant for the Indians. Lower rate of subscription of As 4 per month was fixed by the Bombay Native General Library in 1845 for the Third class members, as the income of the Indians was generally low. The Thane Marathi Granthasangrahalaya levied subscription at the rate of As 2 per month from all the ordinary members to suit the income of an average Marathi reader. At Taluka towns and other places, the rate of subscription was kept at Anna one for the Third Class members. This indicates that the capacity of an average citizen to pay for library services had been considered while fixing the rates of subscription for members in public libraries.

At the Kolhapur Native Library, in 1867, while fixing the rates of subscription, the income of the

members was considered. Thereby the capacity of the members to pay rather than the desire of the members to pay for library services seems to have been taken into consideration. Principles of social justice can be seen in this case. By prescribing this rule, the library received more income from the higher class members. Further, half rates of subscription were prescribed for members knowing only the regional languages as they were less benefitted than the members knowing both the English and the regional languages. This step seems to be a device for making the library more public or general in character. As a result of this rule, the number of Indian members knowing only the regional languages increased rapidly.

Proposals to increase the rates of subscription were opposed from time to time. The lower class members were successful in allowing to raise their rates of subscription to a minimum whereas they insisted on raising the rates of subscription of higher class members.

(d) The Privileges of Members

(1) Issue of Books and Periodicals

As per the rules of the library, varying privileges in respect of issue of books and periodicals were extended to the different categories of members in the earlier period. The First class members enjoyed many privileges. They could take the newspapers home, could peruse the new arrivals first and also could take two or more sets of books for home reading. The Second class members could peruse the periodicals and new books after the perusal of periodicals and books by the First Class members and could take one or

more books home. The Third class members at the BNCL could use the reading room only. However, the Third Class members of the Petit Institute could take one set of books home besides reading room facilities.

But this pattern of privileges was changed in some libraries during the latter period. At the Kolhapur Native Library, special privilege of the First Class members to open the fresh daily newspapers at their residence was withdrawn in 1871. Further the system of sending the newspapers to the residence of these members was discontinued in 1872. The libraries of Marathi books at Thane and Bombay issued only one book at a time to all the ordinary members and no special privileges in respect of issue of books and periodicals were enjoyed by the Life Members. At the BBRAS, preferential treatment was given to Members over the Subscribers as regards issue of books. But this class was discontinued by the end of 1920.

However all the members and subscribers were treated on par at the Reading Room Table as all the fresh newspapers were kept first on the reading room tables.

All these steps were towards the democratisation of the library and bridging the gap between the rich and the poor.

(d) (2) <u>Right to Vote and participate in the management of the Library</u>

In the earlier period, members of the higher classes only were eligible to vote on policy matters and to contest the election of the Committee of Management. The lower class members (the class of subscribers at the BBRAS, Third Class

libraries) were not permitted to vote at the annual meeting or to contest the election of the Committee of Management.

Similarly more representation was given to the higher class members then to the lower class members and it was disproportionate to the number of the higher class members, enrolled. For example at the Bhuleshwar Library, Bombay, 11 seats were allocated to the higher class members and only two seats for the Third class members.

In the latter period, the lower class members, strived hard for achieving more rights.

At the Petit Institute, Bombay, the Third class members were eligible to vote on policy matters but could not contest the election to the Committee of Management. Kolhapur Native Library was the first of its kind to give to all its members, excepting students the right to vote at the Annual meeting and also to contest the election of the Committee of Management in 1894. ThaneMarathi Granthasangrahalaye followed this example in 1893. More representation was given to the lower class members at Sangli in 1924 and at the Mumbai Marathi Granthasangrahalaye in 1920. At the Maharashtra Mophat Vachanalaye, Poona, willingness to work voluntarily and collection of funds for the Library were the requirements for the members of the First Rank.

(3) Reading Material and the use of the Library

The Reading Room activity was popular among all the libraries. In the early stages of development of

these libraries, newspapers and magazines in English and mostly published in England were acquired. But during the latter half of the period under study, newspapers and magazines in the Indian regional languages and periodicals in English mostly published in India were acquired to fulfil the needs of the Indian readers. Though the Bombay Govt imposed restrictions on the acquisition of certain Indian periodicals in the registered public libraries, the Free Reading Rooms provided a haunt for the people to read the publications which were proscribed in the registered public libraries. Due to increase in the number of readers, multiple copies of certain newspapers and magazines were purchased. The daily attendance therefore increased especially during the period of First World War. Similarly the hours of work of the Reading Room were gradually extended initially from Sunrise to Sunset and later on upto 9 p m for the convenience of the readers.

An attempt was made to open a special reading room for women at the GMI Library in 1877-78. But this attempt was not successful due to poor response from Women in Bombay. It signifies the social condition of women at that time, in Bombay.

In the early stages of development of the libraries, very few new books were purchased and hence the issue of books was comparatively less. During the later stages of development, due to the ~~new~~ purchase of new books each year, books were issued on an increasing scale. Issue of books in the regional languages was increased considerably as compared to the issue of books in English. New books were read most in

the first year of their receipt in the library. Secondly readers read more books in their mother tongue than in other languages especially in the absense of competent knowledge of the language to enjoy the reading. Wherever new books were purchased each year in good number, the issue of books was increased.

One thing about reading habit can be noticed. The books in Fiction, Drama etc were most in demand in all these libraries. Books in subjects like Biography, History Travels, Voyages etc ranked next in popularity. Periodicals and magazines were demanded and issued on an increasing scale in these libraries. These facts indicate the reading tastes of the readers in a public library.

(4) Library Finance

Financial position of most of the libraries was not sound. Due to the cheap rates of subscription, the income received from membership subscription was poor. Efforts were therefore, made to collect additional funds using various other means. A new class designated as 'Life Members' was created by most of the libraries. Their contribution became a source of income which helped to create Reserve Funds of the libraries, the interest thereupon being generally used to meet the current expenses of the library. Donations from the people were collected especially to meet the capital expenses e.g. for the construction of library buildings and the purchase of new books. In the earlier period, response to such schemes, was received from the Govt of Bombay, enlightened British Officers and the wealthy people (mostly by way of compulsion) in various towns.

In the latter period, good response was received from the Chiefs of Native States. The building of the Kolhapur Native Library was constructed mostly with the State expenses. It is an outstanding example of the state support to a Native Library. Maharaja of Baroda gave sumptuous grants for the construction of the building of the Mumbai Marathi Granthasangrahalaya. Many Chiefs of Native States become Patrons or Life Members of native libraries. The Sardars, Marathi authors, printers, publishers editors of newspapers, Managers of Marathi theatres and Circus Companies and the common people contributed towards the progress of native libraries.

At Bombay, benevolent persons especially the Parsees, the Traders, contributed large funds for the development of native libraries.

The local municipalities also sanctioned meagre grants for the current expenses of the library and for the construction of library buildings. Some libraries could enjoy sound financial position because of the construction of library buildings as some sections of the building were given on rent accruing a regular source of income.

It appears that the progress of the libraries could be achieved with the help of the contributions made by the people themselves. The financial assistance given by the Govt of Bombay was minimum (in 9 cases only). That too was given when the people collected a like sum. All these attempts indicate that sound financial position of a public library cannot be achieved by prescribing cheaper rates of subscription. The income received from membership subscription needs to be subsidised by the additional and adequate funds either to be collected from the wealthier

class of people who have an ability to pay or to be provided by the govt and local self-government agencies which represent all the citizens. Only then can the library services be provided to all the people.

(5) Organisation and Management of Libraries.

All these libraries were managed according to the Rules of the Library. The office-bearers and the members of the Committee of Management were elected annually. Annual Report of the working of the Library was presented to the members, at the Annual meeting. The decisions in the Committee of Management and at the Annual meetings were taken by the members and were recorded in form of resolutions. This system of Democratic decision making was new to the Indians and therefore the decisions could be taken unanimously in the earlier period.

They were gradually accustomed to the democratic way of life and therefore in the latter period, decisions were taken according to majority votes at the meetings. Requisition meetings were called for to reconsider the decisions taken earlier.

The Rules of the libraries were changed, modified or amended in order to keep pace with the changing times. In the process of the amendment of rules, we find a constant struggle between the lower class members and the First class members as regards their privileges.

In the earlier period, the Europeans mostly held the offices of the President or the Secretary and were elected in the Committee of Management. In the latter period, Indians began to be elected as Presidents of Libraries. In the Committee of Management of Libraries as against the European members, the Indian members had the majority. At district

towns all the members were Indians, Among the Indians, in the earlier period, the Brahmins had majority. In the latter period especially in the 20th Century, some members of the Marathe and other caste groups participated in the Committee of Management, either as Secretaries or as Presidents. They started contesting elections, sometimes forming opposing panels for that purpose.

This could be possible because of the spread of education and political awareness among these caste groups. This happended to be a conspicuous feature at the Kolhapur native library and Sangli General Library.

At Bombay, the Parsees took active interest in the libraries.

Annual Reports compiled by the Libraries of Marathi books at Thane and Bombay may be considered as masterpieces of report writing. These libraries started inviting Marathi men of letters at the Anniversary meeting and evolved a platform for scholars to exchange their views.

(6) Persons who led the Library Movement

Various individuals have contributed to the progress and development of public libraries in the Western Maharashtra.

In the earlier period, enlightened British people led the library movement. Among these were British men of eminence of that time, the Governers of Bombay, Missionaries, British officers and scholars.

In the latter period, Indians led the library movement. Many leaders of the Day were associated with the working of the libraries. Marathi authors, Journalists, Scholars, politicians and prominent men in other fields of that period in Maharashtra took active part in the working of libraries.

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The persons belonging to legal profession managed the affairs of native libraries especially during the period commencing from 1909. Persons belonging to middle class Hindu families of average income group managed the affairs of Libraries of Marathi books whereas the young people took active part in the working of Free Reading Rooms at Poona and Bombay.

The above discussion may lead us to conclude that the character of the public libraries was changing. They were leaning to be more Native and the needs of Indians were given more consideration. Similarly the services of the library were made available to a greater number of people i.e. the character of the library was inclined to be more General or Public.

have not made them accessible to the author. Therefore the study lacks some sources.

Contributions of this study

(1) The growth of the library of the Literary Society of Bombay and the process of Indianisation of the library has been studied quantitatively and qualitatively.

(2) Information about the station libraries at Surat and Poona has been brought to the notice of the people. The unpublished sources available at the Bombay Archives have been used for the purpose.

(3) Correspondence regarding the establishment of the native general libraries and the British policy towards public libraries during this period has been studied in a comprehensive manner.

(4) The dates of foundations of the Native General Libraries established from 1850 to 1855 have been fixed. The existing suppositions regarding these dates have been set aside and the new facts have been established.

(5) The account of libraries established in Bombay from 1845 to 1855 has been given.

(6) The establishment and working of the Bombay Native General Library from 1845 to 1880 has been studied in detail.

(7) The progress made by the other native general libraries upto 1921 has been studied.

(8) The establishment and progress made by the libraries of Marathi books at Thane, Bombay and Poona has been studied in depth collectively. The achievement of these libraries in respect of collection of Marathi books and periodicals has been analysed in detail.

(9) The account of the establishment and progress made by Free Reading Rooms and libraries in Bombay and Poona has been studied.

(10) The Government of Bombay prepared rules for the registration of public libraries in 1909 and imposed various restrictions on public libraries. The impact of these regulations on the working of public libraries, the nationalistic attitude shown by the managers of various public libraries in this period and the result, the launching of the non-cooperation movement by Mahatma Gandhi and its impact on public libraries has been studied.

(11) Effort has been made to quantify the growth, development and progress made by these libraries based on the statistics collected from the original records available in various libraries.

(12) The extent of assistance received from the British Government for the progress of native libraries has been quantified.

(13) The reading behaviour of the readers of public libraries has been studied with the help of the available statistics.

(14) Various persons who have contributed towards the progress of libraries and led the libraries have been listed with their major contributions.

(15) The rate of growth of libraries has been quantified. The eras of public library development have been fixed. Models of public libraries developed during the period who have made pioneering efforts have been identified with their features & contributions.

(16) The contribution of the Kolhapur library has been analysed.

The author claims that many of these studies have been made for the first time.

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Table No.16. List of Persons interviewed

Town	Name	Age
Alibag	Pandit, G.D.	80
	Rahalkar K.K.	70
Ahmednagar	Dr.Morje, G.N.	
Bhivandi	Kunte, Govind Laxman, B.A. LL.B.	84
	Karve, Keshav Shridhar B.A. LL.B.	70
Bombay	Bhat V.V.	68
	Khambeta	45
	Lele, R.K.	60
	Rege, S.S.	60
	Tari, Achyut	48
Dhule	Bhat, D.R.	76
Jalgaon	Vyavahare, B.M.	65
	Gandhe, Murlidhar	58
Kolhapur	Selunke, P.B.	58
	Patkar, M.G.	62
Nasik	Aurangabadkar, M.S.	54
Pune	Deshpande, Haribhau B.	77
	Kale, Dinkar Vinayak	81
	Naik, V.G.	75
	Potdar D.V.	88
	Shete, V.T.	62
Sangli	Athavale, M.K. M.A. LL.B. Pleader	88
	Marathe, M.S. M.A., M.Ed.	70
Satara	Acharya, S.B.	60
Sawantwadi	Bandekar	55
Sholapur	Keskar, B.N.	58
Thane	Deval, V.T.	68

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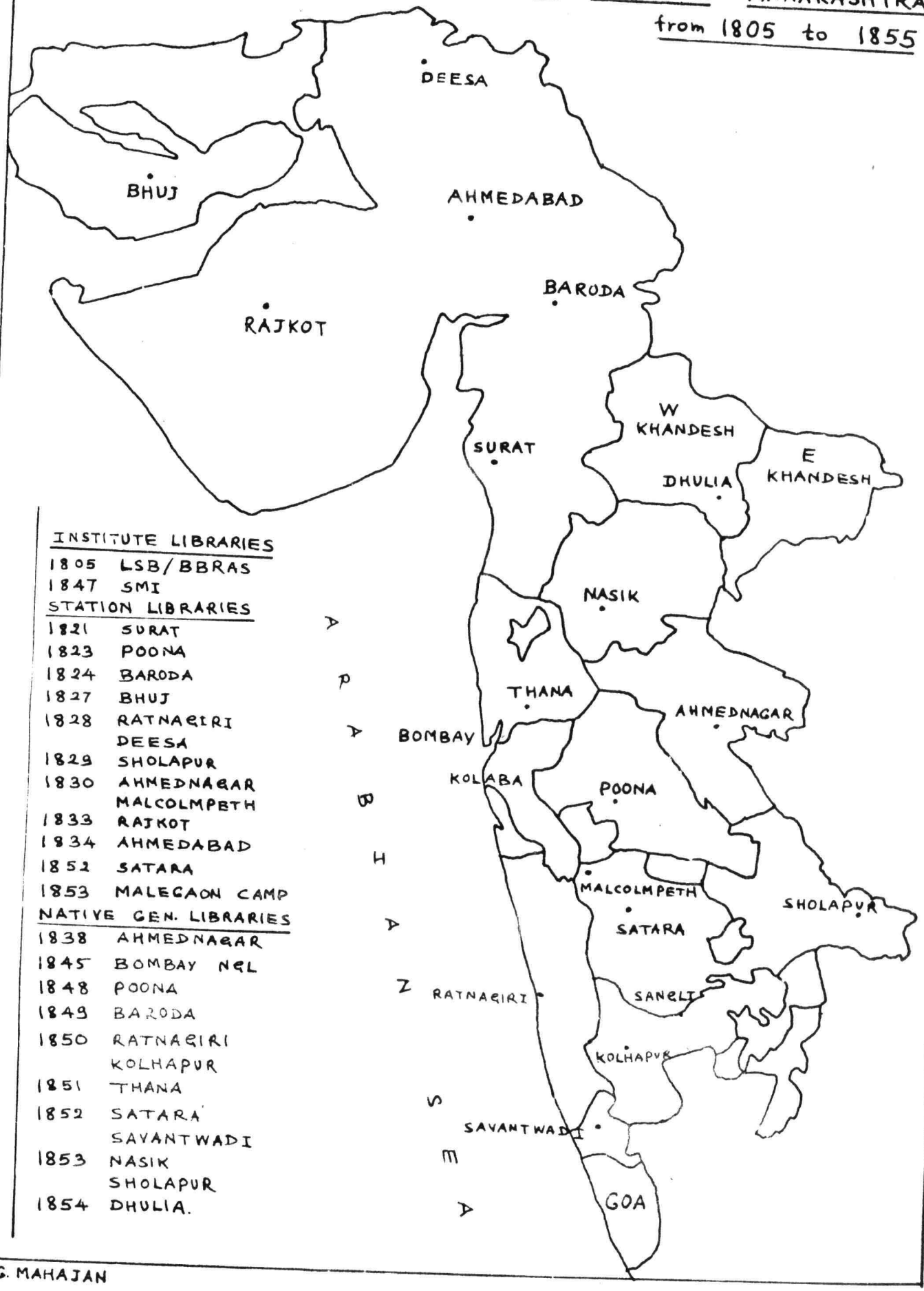
MAP No. 1

ESTABLISHMENT OF LIBRARIES IN WESTERN MAHARASHTRA

from 1805 to 1855



INSTITUTE LIBRARIES	
1805	LSB/BBRAS
1847	SMI
STATION LIBRARIES	
1821	SURAT
1823	POONA
1824	BARODA
1827	BHUJ
1828	RATNAGIRI
	DEESA
1829	SHOLAPUR
1830	AHMEDNAGAR
	MALCOLMPETH
1833	RAJKOT
1834	AHMEDABAD
1852	SATARA
1853	MALEGAON CAMP
NATIVE GEN. LIBRARIES	
1838	AHMEDNAGAR
1845	BOMBAY NGL
1848	POONA
1849	BARODA
1850	RATNAGIRI
	KOLHAPUR
1851	THANA
1852	SATARA
	SAVANTWADI
1853	NASIK
	SHOLAPUR
1854	DHULIA.

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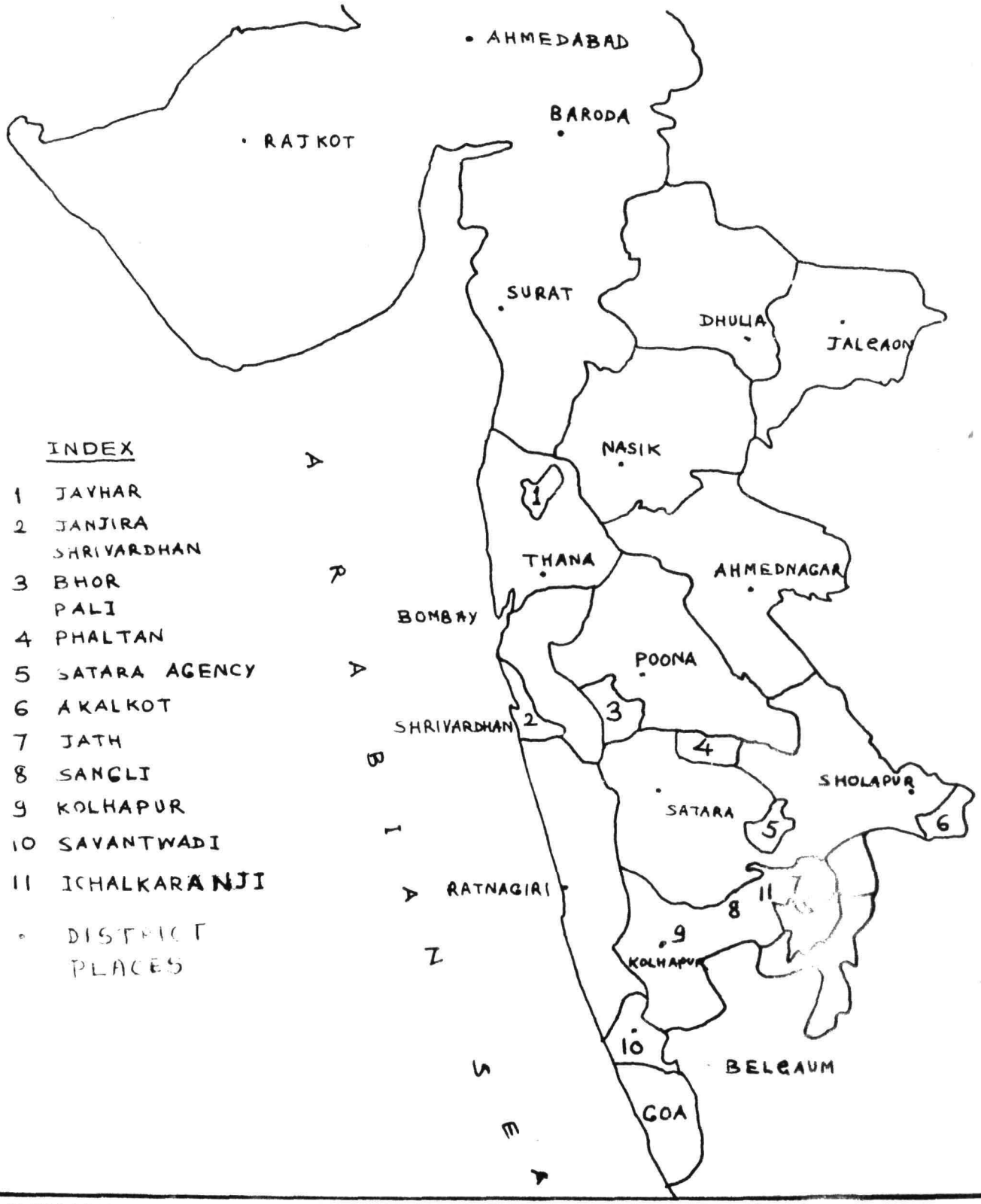
MAP No. 2

LIBRARIES IN WESTERN MAHARASHTRA

INDIAN STATES
1805 – 1921



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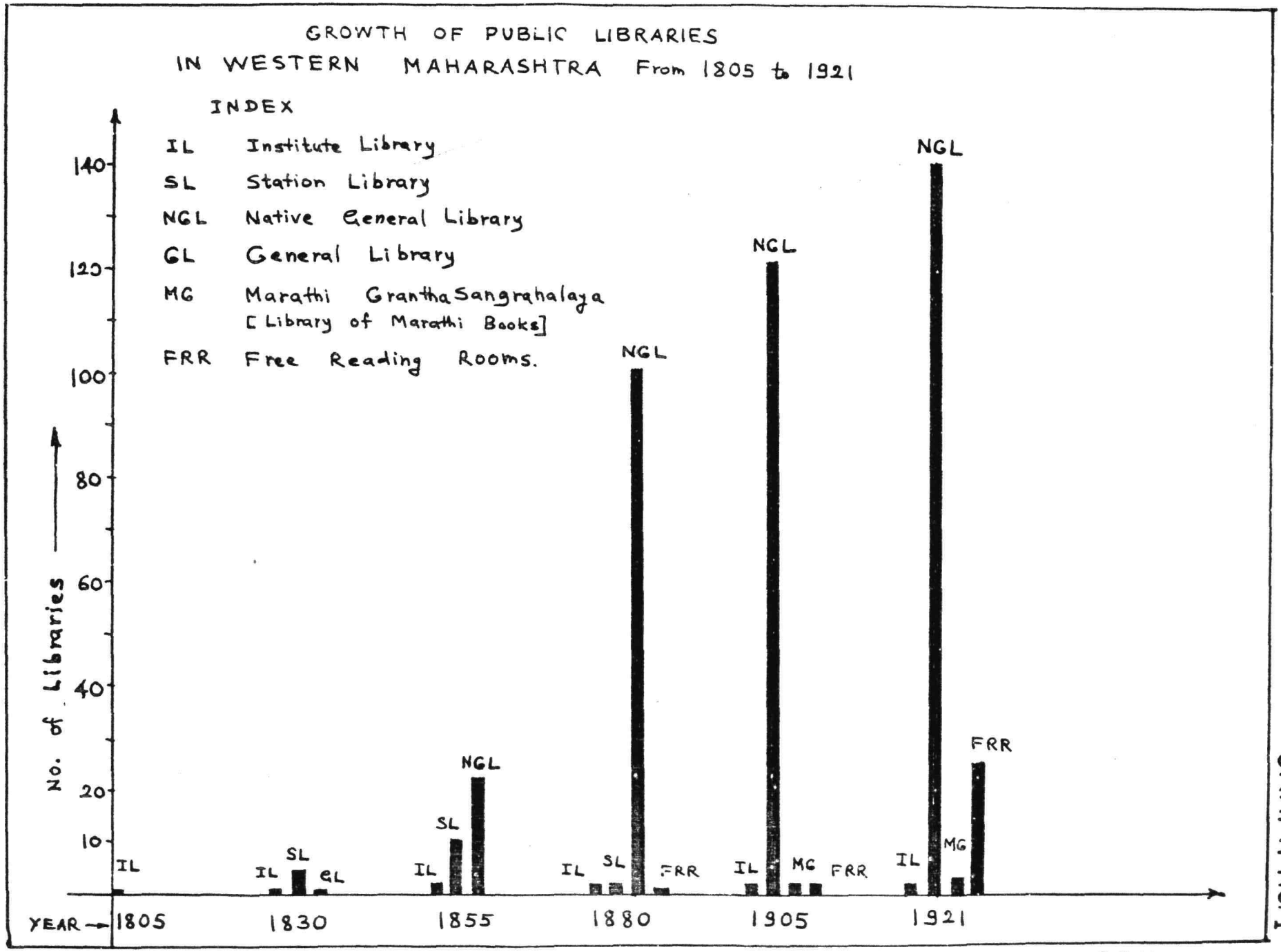
GROWTH OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES
IN WESTERN MAHARASHTRA From 1805 to 1921
INDEX
IL Institute Library
SL Station Library
NGL Native General Library
GL General Library
MG Marathi Granthasangrahalaya
[Library of Marathi Books]
FRR Free Reading Rooms.
No. of Libraries
140
120
100
80
60
40
20
10
IL
IL SL GL
IL SL NGL
IL SL FRR NGL
IL MG FRR NGL
IL MG FRR NGL
YEAR
1805
1830
1855
1880
1905
1921
GRAPH No. 1
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Appendix 1. Literary Society of Bombay.
First Balance sheet.

To Purchase of Books etc.			By amount of admission fees and contributions received.	
1805 Nov.4. Paid the library Committee. Draft on M/S Forbes for books	62		1805/6 per account	6062
			1806/7 per account	840
				6902
1806 July 31st. Draft on Ditto in favour of Dr.Helenus Scott by the Committee for conducting the concerns of the library	8086		1805 Sept Amount of sale of a Ten percent promissory Note for Rs.1000	1103
	8148			
1806/7 Nov 7 Bills for Courier etc. 200 copies of Index vocabulary	258			
1807/8 July 31 9th Vol. Asiatick Researches	30			
	8436			
1805 Cost of tickets of Bombay Lottery	1000		1806 Dec.31 Net proceeds of the Bombay Lottery	17917
Petty charges	382			
Purvoes and Servants wages 1805/6 1806/7 1807/8	1092		Interest at 1/2% per month	1869
	10910			
Balance being the net amount of the funds of the Society in the hands of Forbes and Co. on 31st July	16572			
	312			
	27794			27793

Appendix 2. List of some rare books presented by the Hon'ble Mount Stuart Elphinstone to the Literary Society of Bombay.
(Original list of 10 pages, about 100 items, given at the end of minute of the meeting held on 29 Feb 1820.)

---

1. Alsharevie, Medicorum Arabum Theoriae Practicae Augustre Vinderie. 1519. Rare

2. Ariosto, le Comedie. Venizia. 1551. Rare.

3. Belloni Fragmenta vestigu Veteris. Rome 1673. Plates Rare.

4. Campo, Oremona Illustrata. Oremona 1585 with Five portraits by Augustina Carracie. Fine copy of this Rare work.

5. Commentarie de Caesar Milana 1518. Woodcuts.

6. Dante, devina Comedie. Magnificent illuminated Ms on Vellum apparently of 14th century.

7. Euclidis Elementa Ms on Vellum apparently of the 15th century.

8. Hygini Astronomia venities. 1512. Cuts Rare

9. Paraddsis de octensio Lenchi Venice 1544. Rare.

10. Papasvante Specchio de Vera Penitenza Ferinze. 1495. Wood Cut. Very Rare

11. Quadriga Spirituale Verona. 1475. Very Rare.

Table No. 1 (Contd)

S.No. of Library	No. of books: Purchased	Presented	Lent	Total	No. of books by languages: Eng.	Vern	Nature of works (subjects)	Average daily attendance	Time of attendance	Periodicals subscribed and newspapers taken: No.	Language	Distance from NGL in miles	Aims & objects	Committee of management
1				602	Catalogue printed in 1852		Novels, Romances, Tales, Biography history, poetry religion	5	7 to 9 am 6 to 8 pm	1	Portuguese	3	To secure the advance of reading in the vicinity of their residence	10
2	218	141	149	508			Gen. lit. & history 481 volumes	All subscribers	6 to 11 am 4 to 9 pm	5 1	English Portuguese	1	Not stated	Not stated
3	1674	626	200	2500	2350	150	Novels, Romances Religion, history, biography, sciences poetry, travels etc	40	Not stated	18 6 5	English Marathi Gujarathi	3/4	To supply cheaper instructive reading	13
4				1211	1000	211	151 Sci. 75 history 79 biography, 115 religion & 692 misc.	40	6 to 10 am 4 to 9 pm	7 9	English Vern.	1/2	To obtain facilities for reading near home	8
5	700	200	250	750	720	30	History, Science, bography & religion No novels	20	6 to 10 am 4 to 9 pm	9 10	English Vern.	1/4	An intellectual moral improvement young men leaving schools early	Not Stated
6	270	195	185	600			50 sc. 110 history & biography, 200 religion, 240 misc	7	6 to 9 am 4 to 9 pm		Vernacular	3/4	To improve the minds of such persons who cannot afford to pay for the same	Not stated
7				350			Chiefly history Science & religion	Thinly as books are read at home	Not stated	10	Eng.Mar. Guj.	1/4	To afford cheap reading to those who cannot afford to pay the high rate of subscription of similar institutions	8
8		250		250			History, Biography Sci. Literature	20	7 to 9 am 5 to 10 pm	Most of the English & vernacular newspapers		1/2	To disseminate the seeds of education and civilization among the poor and ill terature	8
9														
10														

Teble no. 1 showing the statistical information about Native Libraries in Bombay during 1854

S.No.	Name of Library with address	Date of Estb.	No. of subscribers		Amount of donations received Rs.	Rate of monthly subscriptions		Expenditure per month	Principal castes of subscribers	Employment of subscribers
			At the time of estb.	Now i.e. in 1854		1st Cl.	2nd Cl.			
						Rs.As	As			
1	Matharpacady Book Club	Aug. 1851	16	16	981.00	1	8	13.0.0	Native Christians Europeans & Parsees	In Govt. & merchants offices, Salary 15 to 100
2.	Kavel book club	6 Oct. 1851	31	20	125.00	1	8	13.0.0	Europeans & native christians	In Govt.& Mercantile offices & Govt. duc. Inst.
3.	Native Book Blub	1 Jul 1852	30	150	2160.00	0 8	4	25.0.0	Natives Port. & Int.-Brit.	Students in Govt. & Miss. Inst. & Cl. in Govt & Mer. offices
4	Bombay Nat. Library & R.R. Old Sonapur Str.	1 Aug 1852	23	61	1375.00	0 8	4	20.00	Eur. Indo-Brit. Nat. Port.Musl. Parsees	In Govt & Merc.Offices & Ed. Inst.
5	Juvenile Improvement Library. New Lane Str. Opp. house of Narayan Dinanathjee JP	7 Aug 1852	20	53	750.00	0 4	3	20.00	Hind. Porg. Parsees & Indo.Brit.	Clerks - Pay under 50 Students from Sch. & coll.
6	Native Benevolent Library. Near Dady Sett's Agiary, Phanaswadi,	July 1853	76	20	513.00	Free of charge		3.00	Nat.Conv. Sonar, Bhundaress Purbhus & Port.	Students of Govt. & Missionaries semanaris
7	Students Native Library, Lohar Chal	Sept. 1853	19	45	125.00	0 3	2	4.00	Shinwise Purbhoos	Students of Gen. assembly's institutions
8	Native Improvement Library, Pallow Road	Oct 1853	20	30	100.00	Varies from 8 As to 2 As		10.00	Hindus Parseens East Ind.	In Govt. & Merchants Attorney offices.
9	Bombay Native General Library	5 Jun 1845	250	.... Discussed in detail in Chapters 4 and 5.						
10	Library and Reading Room. Margaon (8 May 1854 letter from Stovell See D8)									

Table No.2 - showing the number of Libraries and Reading Rooms in Western Maharashtra in existence during 1880's

Name of the district	No. of libraries			No. of reading rooms			Grand total	No. of Towns
	Old	New	Total	New	Closed	Total		
Ahmednagar	1	1	2	0	0	0		2
Khandesh	1	1	2	10	1	9		11
Kolaba	0	3	3	3	1	2		5
Kolhapur State	1	1	2	13	1	12		13
Nasik	2	2	4	3	1	2		5
Poona	1	3	4	11	9	2		2
Ratnagiri	1	5	6	0	0	0		6
Sawantwadi State	1	0	1	1	1	0		2
Satara	1	1	2	10	5	5		6
Sangli States	0	4	4	0	0	0		4
Mudhol State	0	1	1	0	0	0		1
Sholapur	1	4	5	2	0	2		5
Thana	1	4	5	6	4	2		7
Indian States	0	4	4	0	0	0		4
Total	11	34	45	59	23	36	81	74
Bombay	10	13	23		6		17	1
Grand Total	21	47	68	59	29		98	75

Table No.1 - showing the names of Native Libraries established newly in Bombay from 1856 to 1881 and other information

S.No.	Name and address	Date of foundation	Principal communities	Books, building, donations etc.	Members (Subscribers)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Fort Improvement Library	1-4-1856	Parsees	Detailed account given in the chapter 5	
2.	Dhunjeebhoy Framjee Reading Room and Library. No.5 Khetwadi Main Road Name changed to Dhanjibha Framji Library TICD 1883 (Regd with DPI TICD 1879 p. 460)	1860	Parsees	The use of the Library hall is allowed free of rent by Framjee Nusserwanjee Patel Govt. of Bombay donated books PD 1874 Vol 175- GR 1502/27 May 1874 in General Department	
3.	Roman Catholic Library and Debating Club. Name changed as Catholic Library and Reading Room. Cavel Street	1-3-1863	Christians	Removed to its own building since 1 February 1886 TICD 1889 p.932	
4.	Girgaon Library. Name changed as J N Petit Library Girgaum (1891) TICD 1891 p. 939	1 Nov 1863	Christians Indians	1341 books, English dailies few London papers and some vernacular journals (GD 1875 Vol.36 p.261). Bombay Govt. donated books (GD 1875 Vol.36 p.3).	

Contd..

Table No.3 (Contd)

1	2	3	4	5	6
5	Khoja General Reading Room and Library. No.22 Don Tad 3rd row, Khoja moholla Name changed as Mooljibhoy Jewraj Khoja General Reading Room and Library (1882) TICD 1883,p.934	3 April 1865	Muslims Khoja community	Gift of Rs.5000 from Mooljibhoy Jewraj by a deed of trust dated 7 Jan 1882. Possessed 500 English books and 200 Gujarati books. Received 11 English NP, 6 Gujarati NP and 11 Gujarati magazines on 31 Dec. 1874 GD 1875 Vol.36 p.3.	118 members 3 classes 4 As 8 As 1 Re. (1874) Life members 20 Subscribers 91 TICD 1883.
6	Upper Girgaon Reading Room TICD 1870 p. 527	1868	Christians		
7	Baherkote Improvement Library Name changed as The Jamsetjee Nasservanjee Petit Baherkote Improvement Library. TICD 1889. p. 932	1 Nov. 1869	Parsees		
8	Khandwalla Moholla Reading Room and Library, Mul Bazar (1872) Parel Road (1882) Name changed as - Sir Dinshaw Petit Kanda Moholla and Bharucha Moholla Library, 54 Sitaampura Street. (TICD 1886, p.487)	1870	Parsees		Subscribers 90 (1873) 60 (1879) 45 (1882)(1883) 110 (1886)

Contd...

Table No.3 (Contd)

1	2	3	4	5	6
9.	Hindu Dnyansvardhak Library, Hornby Road, Jayram Shewjee's House (1872) 42 Hornby Road (1879) 47 Bazar Gate Street (1882-86)	1870	Hindus Gujaratis	Possesses Gujarati and Sanskrit books.	
10	Mount Road Library, Mazgaon (TICD 1882 p.863) Name changed as - Mount Road Circulating Library TICD 1900 p.779	1871	Christians		
11	Bhooleshwar Library, Opp. Mumbadevi Govt. Tel. Office (1882), 132 Main Bhuleshwar Road (1891) Name changed as Javerilal Umashanker Yajnik Library.	1-May 1874	Hindus Gujarati	Bombay Govt. donated Books (PD 1874 Vol.175) GR No.3086 dated 27-11-1874	LM 18 (1886) LM 22 (1895) Subscribers 420 (1886) 600 (1895)
13	Telugu Library, Kamatipura Bazar Road (TICD 1898,p.761) President Rao Saheb Ellappa Balaram The Bombay Telugu Free Library and Reading Room Estb. ..	1874 1875	Hindus Telugu		
15.	The Cowasjee Dinshaw Library and Reading Room. Merged with - Albert Edward Institute and Cowasji Dinshaw Hall and Library, Poona TICD 1900 p. 780	1875	Parsees	Corner of Church gate and Cowasjee Patel Stre. Open daily from 5.30 am to 7.30 pm Chiefly supported by Cowasjee Dinshaw Adenwala TICD 1900 p. 780	Subscription rate 1st Cl.12 as pm 2nd Cl 4 as pm Subscribers 450 (1882) 480 (1883)

Note - The above information has been collected from the annual publication 'Times of India Calender and Directory. Years mentioned in brackets refer to year of the calender.

Table No.4 - showing the names of Towns in Western Maharashtra where libraries and reading rooms were established from 1856 to 1881

Subdivision District	Libraries	Reading Rooms	R/R closed
Poona SD	Poona SGL (1848) United Service (1860) Poona Camp (1881) Albert Edward Inst). (1875)	Nasta Peth Poona (1881) Saswad	Indapur Talegaon Dabhade Talegaon Dhamdhere Pabal Jejuri Junnar Khed (1861) Baramati Patas
Sholapur SD	Sholapur (1853) Pandharpur (1874) Barsi (1863) Sholapur camp (1874) Bazar Lib. (1881)	Karmala (1881) Vairag (1864)	
Satara	Satara (1852) Mahabaleshwar	Ashta Karad (1857) Malcolmpeth (1845) Tasgaon Vita (1869) Satara Station (1852)	Mayani Vaduj Pusesavali Wai
Khandesh	Dhulia (1863) (1854)? Jalgaon (1877)	Bhadgaon Bhusaval (1870) Erandol (1868) Jamner Nandurbar Nasirabad Perola Raver Savda	Amalner (1872)
Ahmednagar	Ahmednagar (1838) Sangamner		

Contd...

Table No.4 contd.

Subdivision District	Libraries	Reading Rooms	R/R closed
Nasik	Nasik NGL (1852) Yeola (1866) Malegaon Camp (1853) Malegaon Town (1864)	Dindori Sinnar (1874)	Nowsam
Ratnagiri	Ratnagiri NGL (1850) Chiplun (1864) Dapoli Malvan Rajapur (1867) Vengurla (1870)		
Sawantwadi	Sawantwadi (1852)	Kudal (1860)	Kudal
Thana	Thana NGL (1850) Bassein (1863) Kalyan Library(1864) Uran NGL (1865) Bhivandi NGL (1863)	Kelva-Mahim Shahapur (1876)	Dahanu Chinchnee Dahlwali Panvel (1867)
Kolaba	Alibag NGL (1866) Pen (1966) Mahal (1874)	Tala RR (Mangaon)(1878) Roha (1878)	Alibag (Divalkar)
Kolhapur	Kolhapur NL (1850) - another lib (Agency book club)	Ajra (1870) Gadhinglaj (1874) Gagenbavda Gargoti (1876) Hatkanangla Ichalkaranji (1870) Kagal (1880) Malkapur (1881) Narsobachi Wadi Panhala Raybag Shirol (1877)	Miraj (1871-2)

Continued...

Table No.4 (Contd).

Subdivision District	Libraries	Reading Rooms	R/R closed
Sangli States	Sangli (1864) Kavtha Tardal Shahapur		
Mudhol States	Mudhol	Akalkot (1875) Mangalvedha (1875)	
Other States		Phaltan (1872) Shrivardhan (1864)	

Table No.5 - giving the names of Libraries in Western Maharashtra established from 1856 to 1880 (arranged by year of foundation).

Year of foundation	Place and Name of the Library
1857	Karad Native Library, Karad, Dist. Satara
1860 (1874 GBP)	Kudal, Dist. Ratnagiri. Native Library Sawantwadi State, Dist. Ratnagiri.
1861	Khed, District Poona.
1863	Barshi, District Sholapur
1863	Bhivandi, Dist. Thana.
1864	Shrivardhan, Janjira State, Kolab District.
1864	Malegaon Town, District Nasik.
1864	Sangli, Sangli State, Sangli District.
1864	Chiplun, District Ratnagiri
1864	Kalyan
1866	Pen, District Kolaba.
1866	Alibag, District Kolaba. Revived 1917.
1866	Yeola, District Nasik.
1867	Rajapur, District Ratnagiri.
1868	Erandol, District Khandesh,
1869	Vita, Tal. Khanapur, District Sangli.
1870 (20-7-1890 Revived)	Bhusaval, Khandesh. Dist. Jalgaon.
1870	Ichalkaranji, Kolhapur State, Dist. Kolhapur.
1871	Vengurla, District Ratnagiri.
1872	Amalner, Khandesh. Victoria Jubilee Library.
1872	Phaltan, Satara State. Dist. Satara. (Chhatrapati Shivaji Vachanalaya)
1874	Mahad, District Kolaba.
1874	Gadalhinglaj (General Library), District Kolhapur.

Contd..

Table No.5 (Contd)

Year of Foundation.	Place and Name of the Library
1874	Pandharpur (Nagar Vachan Mandir) Dist. Sholapur
1874/1-9	Sholapur, Camp and Medikhana Library.
1875	Poona Camp. Albert Edward Institute and Cowasji Dinshaw Hall and Library.
1875	Mangalvedha, Akkalkot State, Dist. Sholapur.
1875	Akalkot, Shri Shahaji Vachanalaya, Dist. Sholapur.
1876	Gargoti, Shri Shahu Vachanalaya, Dist. Kolhapur.
1877	Shirol. Dist. Kolhapur.
1877 (1 July)	Jalgaon Native General Library, Dist.Khandesh (Jalgaon)
1878 (1817 revived)	Roha S.R. Dist. Kolaba (Bhate Vachanalaya)
1880	Kagal, District Kolhapur.
1881	The Poona Camp Library.
1881	Poona - Raste's Peth S.R.
1881	Malkapur, District Kolhapur
1882	Janjira Murud General Library Dist. Kolaba, Janjira State.
1882	Yawal Dist. Khandesh. (Jalgaon)
1883	Nandurbar M.G.L. Lord Ripon Library. Dist. Khandesh. Dhulia.

1885	Jat Vachanalaya, Jat, Dist Sangli
1885	Sarvajanik Taluka Vachanalaya, Islampur, Tal Walwa, Dist Sangli
1887	Mahatma Sarvajanik Vachanalaya, Shegaon, Dist Ahmednagar
1887	Lokmanya Vachanalaya, Jamkhed, Dist A'Nagar
1870 or 1888	Shrimant Gangabai Vachan Mandir Ajra, Peta Ajra, Dist Kolhapur

Table No.5 (Contd)

Year of Foundation.		Place and Name of the Library
1893		Marathi Granthasangrahalaya Thane.
1894		Shri Rameshwar Sarvajanik Mandir Achare, Tal Malvan, Dist Ratnagiri
1897		Karsondas Mulji Vachanalaya, Matheran, Dist Kolaba
1898		Namdeo Mophat Vachanalaya, Poona
1904		Nagar Vachan Mandir, Sangola Dist Sholapur
1906		Nagar Vachan Mandir, Malvan, Dist Ratnagiri
1906		Vachan Mandir (Raghunath Ganesh Khatkhate Granthalaya), Shirode, Pete Vengurla Dist Ratnagiri
1906		Shet Narayan Bankat Vachanalaya, Chalisgaon, Dist Jalgaon
1906		Pali Sarvajanik Vachanalaya, Pali, Tal Sudhagad Dist Kolaba.
1907	23 August	Dadar Sarvajanik Vachanalaya, Dadar, Bombay.
1910	1 Jan.	Nagar Vachan Mandir, Tasgaon, Dist Sangli
1910		Sarvajanik Vachanalaya, Barsmati
1910		Mahatma Gandhi Sarvajanik Vachanalaya, Vada, Dist Thana
1910		Bhinger Vachanalaya, Bhinger Dist Ahmednagar
1910		Pune Marathi Granthalaya.
1911		Shivapatten Mophat Vachanalaya, Kharda, Tal Jamkhed, Dist Ahmednagar
1914	1 Jan.	Raja Raghunathrao Deshmukh Vachanalaya, Raver Dist Jalgaon
1914		Sarvajanik Vachanalaya, Agashi Tal Vasai Dist Thana

Table No.5 (Contd)

Year of Foundation.		Place and Name of the Library
1915		Chopda, Dist Jalgaon
1915		Nagar Vachanalaya, Kurundwad, Tal Shirol Dist Kolhapur
1915		Manmad Reading Club, Manmad Dist Nasik
1915		Nagarpalika Granthalaya ani Mophat Vachanalaya, Lonawala, Dist Poona.
1916		Lok Seva Sangha Ganeshwadi, Tal. Shirol, Dist Kolhapur
1916		Sarvajanik Library Nasirabad Dist Jalgaon.
1917		Bhate Sarvajanik Vachanalaya, Roha Dist Kolaba
1917		Sarvajanik Vachanalaya, Alibag, Dist Kolaba
1917		Nagar Vachanalaya, Junnar, Dist Poona
1917		National Library, Vandra, Bombay
1917		Wales Library, Sakri, Dist Dhulia
1918		Mulchand Ramnagayan Karva Vachanalaya, Mahad, Dist Kolaba.
1918		Shri Datta Mophat Vachanalaya, Kodoli, Pete Panhala, Dist Kolhapur
1918		Shrimant Smu. G. Pantasachiv Vachanalaya, Bhor, Dist Poona.
1919		Shri Ganesh Mophat Vachanalaya, Poona
1919		Miraj Vidyarthi Sangh Vachanalaya, Khare Mandir, Miraj, Dist Sangli
1919		Shri Mankeshwar Vachanalaya, Niphad, Dist Nasik
1919	19 Sept.	Shri Laxmikant Sarvajanik Vachanalaya ani Granthasangrahalaya, Karjat Dist Kolaba
1920		Shri Ramdas Mophat Vachanalaya, Shirval, Pete Khandala Dist Poona
1920		Shri Jain Oswal Bhagirathibai Library, Jamner, Dist Jalgaon

1868 69

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Extract from the Report of the Department of Public Instruction in the Bombay Presidency for the year 1868-69, Page No. 49 to52 and 152 to 153.

Appendix A1 Report by W Draper Acting C.D. for 1868 69

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12.--Libraries.

A.--Previously existing. Return up to 31st March 1868.

	NAME OF PLACE.	Total Number of Volumes.	No. added during the year.	No. of Members.	Volumes Issued.	Income			Expenditure.		
	1	2	3	4	5	6			7		
						Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p
	Bombay				Return not received.						
Poona Sub Division.	Poona*	2,616	204	181	823	811	4	0	737	14	0
	Sholapoor				Return not received.						
	Jooneer	100	...	50	...	168	0	0	153	0	0
	Tulligaum										
	Dhamdhare	89	2	35	6	41	4	[illegible]	36	10	6
	Pabul	100	...	...	...	.....			.....		
	Khair										
	Barramuttee				Returns not received.						
	Indapoor	160	...	16	...	140	0	0	33	12	0
	Sasoor	12	...	30	.12	66	0	0	66	0	0
	Patus	77	...	6	1	66	12	0	62	1	0
	Tullegaum										
	Dhabhade..	34	8	29	4	72	0	0	72	0	0
	Vyrag				Return not received.						
Sattara Sub Division.	Sattara City	2,191	59	86	1,248	1,021	0	0	1,144	5	6
	Wai	131	10	42	....	430	12	6	151	12	8
	Kurrar	588	97	38	125	274	13	3	185	7	3
	Malcolm Peit	600	200	69	350	502	0	0	578	0	0
	Tasgaum	59	...	6	20	163	12	0	206	1	11
	Vadooz	33	2	36	4	126	8	0	88	14	0
	Mayni	45	10	12	...	47	12	6	35	6	0

* No. information regarding this Library (Poona Native General Library) Was received last year.

						Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
Kandesh Sub-Division.	Dhoolia	302	86	32	144	188	8	0	231	2	0
	Burgam	37	61	35	7	186	10	0	174	2	6
	Malligaum	239	10	6	12	50	0	0	50	0	0
	Nandoorbar	21	10	10	100	100	0	0	100	0	0
	Errundole	...	319	25	9	64	8	0	63	10	0
	Parola	...	37	117	20	117	8	0	109	0	0
	Nasirabad	20	79	20	...	131	0	0	131	0	0

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APPENDIX A 1-contd.

NAME OF PLACE	Total Number of Volumes.	No. added during the year.	No. of Member	Volumes Issued	Income			Expenditure.		
1	2	3	4	5	6			7		
					Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
Ahm-Ahmednuggur	1,501	51	59	176	378	4	0	333	4	0
edn-Nassick	591	96	58	293	347	3	6	393	9	6
ugg-Newaseh	73	153	82	30	77	0	0	51	12	6
ur Yeola	494	37	44	169	75	0	0	206	9	0
Sub Division.										
Rut-Rutnagherry	881	538	54	90	579	15	2	539	0	3
nag-Sawunt Wadi	586	30	46	57	447	13	10	246	10	2
her-Dapooli	43	2	8	86	178	6	0	120	3	6
ry Sub-Division.										
Ta- Tanna	835	...	156	245	487	8	6	476	13	8
nn- Callian	208	1	22	20	369	8	0	144	5	9
a Bhewndy	143	97	22	20	376	7	0	463	10	2
Sub-Bassein	343	5	94	82	225	0	0	166	3	3
Div-Penn	49	3	24	...	27	9	6	27	3	0
is- Alibag	330	82	27	25	195	0	0	196	8	0
on. Chinchnee	177	...	...	...	30	0	0	30	0	0
Oorun	142	45	133	14	132	0	0	122	4	0
Panwell	56	...	39	7	11	0	0	165	8	0
Dhanoo	23	1	12	10	35	0	0	22	12	0
Alibag free Library (supported by Bhausaheb Bhivakar).	58	...	...	...	.....			80	0	0

B.—Newly Established.

						Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p
Poona Sub-Division	Barnee	Return not received.									
Sattara S. D.	Poosesawlee.	...	19	...	...	171	0	0	125	11	0
Kandesh S. D.	Amulnair	...	8	5	...	181	0	0	81	8	0
Rutnagherry S.D.	Rajapoor	...	...	...	...	152	0	0	.....		
Tanna Sub-Division	Dahwuli	....	120	79	15	154	7	0	98	12	6

Table No.8. Native libraries at Taluka towns and other places in Western Maharashtra upto 1881

District/ name of Library	Year of estt	By whom start, library building etc.	Report year	Books	Members	Rate of subs.	Income	Newspapers and magazines
Ahmednagar district (GBP XVII, p.581)								
Sangamner Native library		Own building.	1882-83	3 Sans 1. Guj. 66 Mar. 70	34	As. 12 to Rs 11 p.a.	40 Mun Gr 78 Sub.	
Khandesh District (GBP XII p.335)								
Reading Rooms - 9								
Bhadgaon, Bhusaval Erandol								
Jamner Nandurbar, Nasirabad								
Parola Raver Savda								
Kolaba and Janjira (GBP XI, p.235)								
Pen library	1866		1879-80	180	35	Rs.1) As.8) p.m. As.4)	100 20 Bal.	9 NP. Vern. 3 Monthly Mag.
Alibag NGL	1866	Founded by general subscription	1879-80	259	17	Rs 2) Rs.1) p.m. As.8) As.4	150(1880)	5 NP. Vern. 2 Monthly Mag.
Mahad Library	1874	Started by people of the town	1879-80	Poorly supplied with books		As 8) As 4) p.m. As 2)		2 NP Vern.
Tala reading room (Mangaon)	187[illegible]	Started by people	1879-80			Rs.5) Rs.3) p.a. Rs.1)		5 NP Vern. 1 Monthly Mag
Roha Reading room	1878							1 NP Anglo-vern.
Kolhapur District (GBP XXIV)								
Reading rooms - 14								
Panhala Kolhapur Ichalkarani								
Hatkanangale Narsobachi Wadi. Kavatha								
Shirol Gadahinglaj Terdal								
Raybag Gargoti Shahapur								

Continued...

Table No.7. Native Libraries at District towns in Western Maharashtra. Progress made upto 1880's

Name of the Library.	Year of foundation	Founders/Donations/Library building	Report year	Books	Members	Rate of subscription	Income	Periodicals received.
Ahmednagar city library (GBP XVII)	1838	Reopened in 1847. Donations of 435 books by different gentlemen Rs.25/- Donated. Located in a building which was once a mosque	1882-83	1070 Eng 463 Mar Sans Per 1533 Tot	50	Rs.3 to Rs.24 per year	420 300 sub 120 Mun Gr.	English - 1 Daily - 3 Weekly Vern - 6 wkly pap. - 1 Biwkly - 5 Mon.Mag.
Dhulia NGL (GBP XII)	*1854 1863	Building built in 1871 at joint expenses of Municipality and Shet Hanmantram Shevakdas, a wealthy banker	1879	1250 Eng. Vern.			400 Sub. 100 Mun Gr	13 Mag and NP (including 2 Bombay Daily papers)
Kolhapur Native Library (GBP XXIV)	1850		1863	2969	195	Rs.3 to Rs.120 per annum	2202 Inc. 1436 Exp.	45 NP
Nasik NGL (GBP XVI)	*1840 1853	Accommodated at the Collector's office which was formerly Peshwa's palace		2000 Eng. Vern		Rs.3 to Annas 4 per month	600 subs. 100 Mun.Gr. 600 Exp.	2 Bombay dailes and vernacular papers
Poona NGL (GBP XVII)	1848	Established by J.Maerden, Agent for Sardars assisted by G.H. Deshmukh, Moro Raghunath Dhamdhere Budhwar Palace. Fire 1879	1884	913	92		650 subs 160 Grants	16 NP 4 Journals.
Ratnagiri (GBP X)	1850	Special building	1879	725			300	Few vernacular papers and mafazines
Satara city Library Satara Station library	1852 1852	In Feb. 1866 both amalgamated in Satara City Library. Owas a nice building given by widow of Shahaji, last Raja of Satara	1862-63	1761 Eng. Mar. Sanak.	107		680 sub.	18 Eng. includes two boubay Eng.NP 12 Marathi NP
Sawantwadi NGL (GBP X)	1852	Building erected partly by State expenses and partly by subscriptions	1877	1097	56		1180 plus 2500 Govt Sec. at 4%	
Sholapur Library (GBP XXI)	*1857 1853	Established by leading inhabitants of that place	1882-83	1450 Eng. Vern.			150 Subs. 300 Mun.Gr. 450	10 N.P. 2 Monthly mag.
Thana NGL (GBP XII pt 2)	1850	Established chiefly through the liberality of Mr.Ray, the judge. The library is recognised and regd by Govt.	1879-80	712 Eng. 235 Mod. Orie. Lang	45 I Rs. 1 7 II As 8 12 III As 4 23 IV As 2 3 per month			2 Daily NP from 1 Wkly Marathi 2 Mara. Magazines 1.Eng. Magazine

* Year of foundation of the Nasik and Sholapur Native Libraries is 1853.

Table No. 9 List of Donors with amount of donations paid to the Bombay Native General Library for purchase of new books.

Name of the Donor	Amount donated
Hon. Rustomjee J. Jeejeebhoy	Rs. 2000
Gokuldas Tejpal	2000
Curaetjee Fardoonjee Paruk	2000
Sir Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy, Bart.	1500
Sorabjee Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy	1500
Nasserwanjee Manockjee Petit	1500
Dadabhoy Byramjee	1000
Nowrojee Rustomjee Motabhoy	500
Gokuldas Liladhar	500
Cowasjee Jehangeer Readymoney	1000
Premchand Roychand	1000
Bhagwandas Purshottamdas	1000
Hon. Jagannabh Shankarshet	1000
Hon. Pamabhoy Hamabhoy	1000
Byramjee Hormusjee Gama	1000
Dinshaw Manockjee Petit	1000
Framjee Nasserwanjee Patel	1000
Merwanjee Nasserwanjee Khawasgari	800
Kalyandas Mohandas	500
Karsandas Madhavdas	500
Mongaldas Nathoobhoy	500
Ardaseer Eduljee Chinoy	500
Nowrojee Manabhai Framjee	500
Hormasjee Cursetjee Dadysett	500
Ardaseer Hormasjee Readie	500
Messrs Nasserwanjee Bomanjee Mody & Co.	500
Dhanjeebhai Framjee Patel	500
Messrs Limjee and Cowasjee Manockjee	500
Messrs Varjeevandas and Narotumdas	300
Nasserwanjee Rattonjee Tata	250

Table no 10 showing the number of libraries established, number of towns where libraries were established from 1805 to 1921 in Western Maharashtra

Name of the District	upto 1858 No of Lib	Towns	upto 1880 No of Lib	Towns	Upto 1921 No of Lib	Towns	
Ahmednagar	1	1	2	2	10	8	
Dhulia West Khandesh	1	1	2	2	9	9	
Jalgaon East Khandesh	0	0	10	10	15	15	
Kolaba	0	0	7	7	20	18	
Kolhapur	1	1	12 6	11 6	21	19	not known
Nasik	1	1	6	5	18	13	
Poona	2	1	7	3	27	8	
Ratnagiri	2	2	8	8	15	14	
Sangli	0	0	2	2	8	8	
Satara	3	2	5	5	14	13	
Sholapur	1	1	9	7	14	8	
Thana	1	1	6	6	14	12	
Total	13	11	82	74	185	146	
Bombay	10	1	18	1	34 42	1	
	23	12	100	75	219 227	146	

Table No. 11 showing the names of Towns in Western Maharashtra where public libraries were established from 1805 to 1921. (with Date of foundation, and their information included in GBP (Gazetteer of the Bombay Presidency) 1905 (Table No. 13) and 1920 (Table No 12)

Name of the Town	Year of Foundation	Remarks
Ahmednagar District		
Ahmednagar	1838	Ahmednagar City Library (1905) Ahmednagar Club Lib. (1920) Islami Library
Sangamner		(GBP) Sangamner NL (1920) NGL Sangamner. Revived 1959.
Ashvi		(1920) Revived 1941
Shevgaon	1887	(1920)
Nevasa		(1920)
Jamkhed	1887	
Bhinger	1910	
Kharda	1911	
Dhulia District (West Khandesh District)		
Dhulia	1854	
	1863	(GBP)(1920)
Nandurbar		(GBP)(1920)
Shirpur		(1905)(1920) Revived 1955
Sindkheda		(1905) Revived 1957
Taloda		(1905) Revived 1937
Sakri	1917	(1920)
Newapur		(1920) Revived 1936
Pimpalner		(1920) Revived 1-1-1921
Parola		(1905)
Jalgaon District (East Khandesh District)		
Jalgaon	1877	Vallabhdas Valji Vachanalaya
Erandol	1868	(GBP)
Bhusaval	1870	(GBP)
Bhadgaon		(GBP (1905) Revived 1959
Parola		(GBP)(1905) Revived 1950
Savda		(GBP) Revived 1949
Jamner		(GBP)(1920) Revived 1920 Name Changed
Raver		(GBP)(1920) Revived 1914
Nasirabad		(GBP)(1920) Revived 1916
Amalner	1872	(1905)(1920)
Yawal	1882	(1905)(1920) Name Changed
Chopda	1915	(1920)
Chalisgaon	1906	(1920) Name Changed
Pachora		(1920) Revived 1955
Bodwad		(1920)

Table No 11 continued ...

Name of the Town	Year of Foundation	Remarks
Kolaba District		
Alibag	1866	(GEP) Revived 1917 (1920) (1905)(1920) Kridabhuvan
Mahad	1874	(GEP) Revived 1918(1920)
Pen	1866	(GEP) (1905) (1920) Revived 1948
Roha	1878	(GEP) (1920) Name changed 1917
Tala	1878	(GEP)
Panwel	1867	(GEP) Revived 1948 Thana Dist
Matheran	1897	(1920)
Nagothane		(1905)
		(1905) C.K.P.Club
Uran		(1905)(1920) Revived 1943
Apte (Panvel)		(1905)
Palaspe	(	(1905) Revived FBR(1932)Lib (1940)
Karjat	1919	Lakshmikant Sarvajanik Vachanalaya.
Nerel	1920	Lok Tilak Sarvajanik Vachanalaya
Dahivali Tal Karjat		(1905)
Janjira State		
Murud	1882	(1920)
Shriverdhan	1864	(1920)
Dhor (State)	1918	Now in Poona Dist.
Pali	1906	
Kolhapur States (District)		
Kolhapur	1850	Kolhapur Native Library (GEP) closed. (1920) YMCA Lib
Gadhinglaj	1874	(GEP) (1920)
Gargoti	1876	(GEP) (1920) Name changed
Panhala		(GEP) Revived 1954
Hatkanangale		(GEP) 6 Reading
Narsobachi Wadi		(GEP) Rooms (GEP)
Raybag		(GEP) names not
Shirol	1877	(GEP) (1920) mentioned
Ichalkaranji	1870	(1920)
Ajra	1870or 1889	(1920)
Utur	[illegible]	(1920)
Kurundwad	1915	(1920)
Kavathe Mahankal		(1920)
Tordal		(1920)
Digraj		(1920)

Table No 11 continued ...

Name of the Town	Year of Foundation	Remarks
Kagal	1880	
Malkapur	1881	
Ganeshwadi	1916	
Kodoli	1918	
Nasik District		
Nasik	1853	Nasik Native General Library
	1904	Shri Shivaji Pustakalaya (closed)
	1907	(1920) Nyayamurti Ranade Mophat Vachanalaya
	1918	Free Lib in memory of Mrs. Ranade
Yeola	1866	(GBP) (1920)
Sinnar	1874	(GBP)
Malegaon City	1864	(GBP) (1920) name changed (1905)(1920) Urdu Library
Malegaon Camp	1853	(GBP)(1920) (NCL)
Dindori		(GBP)
Niphad	1919	(1920)
Satana		(1920) Revived 1939
Igatpuri		(1905) (1920) (1920) coop Cr Societi's RR
Dabhadi		(1920)
Manmad	1915	(1920)
Trimbak		(1920)
Ozar		(1920)
Nandgaon	1920	
Poona District		
Poona	1848	Poona NCL
	1860	United Service Lib (GBP)(1851) Poona Station Library-closed)
	1875	Albert Edward I (1905)(1920)
	1881	Poona Camp Lib (GBP)(closed)
	1881	Reste Peth RR (GBP)(1905)(1920) Deccan Moslem Inst (1920) Poona Jewish RR and Lib. (1905)(1920) Poona Islam Lib, Deccan Anjuman, Camp (1920)
	1898	Namdeo Mophat Vachanalaya
	1910	Puna Marathi Granthalaya
	1919	Ganesh Mophat Vachanalaya Shahu Chhatrapati Vachanalaya
10 FRR		Free Reading Rooms - Chapter 7
Saswad	1860	(GBP((1920)
Junnar	1917	(1920)
Lonavala	1915	(1920)

Table No 11 continued ...

Poona District

Khed	1861	(1920)
Baramati	1910	(1920)
Alandi		(IG)(1920)
Indapur		(1920)
Bhor (See Kolaba District)		

Ratnagiri District

Ratnagiri	1850	NGL/R (GBP)(1905)(1920)
		(1906) European Club Library
Chiplun	1864	(GBP)(1920) Name changed
Kudal	1860or 1874	(GBP) (1920) Name changed
Malvan		(GBP) Revived 1906
Rajapur	1867	(GBP) (1920) name changed
Vengurla	1870	(GBP) (1920) name changed
Dapoli		(GBP) (1920) name changed 1922
Shirode	1906	(1920)
Deorukh		(1920) revived 1949
Anjani		(1920)
Khed		(1920) Revived 1947
Achare	1894	(1920)
Sawantwadi	1852	(GBP)(1920) Name changed
Banda, Sawantwadi State		(1920)

Sangli States

Sangli	1864	(GBP)(1920) Name changed
	1868	
	1917	Vyapari Mophat Vachanalaya
Mudhol		(GBP)
Budhgaon (Miraj Jr)		(1920)
Gudgeri (Miraj Jr)		(1920)
Miraj		(1920)
Khandali (Miraj Jr)		(1920)

Jat State

Jat	1885	
Uran-Islampur	1885 or 1886	

Satara District

Satara City	1852	Satara City Library
		(GBP)(1905)(1920)
	1852	Satara Camp Library (Merged 1866)
		(1920) Sarvajanik Vachanalaya
Karad	1857	
Vita	1869	(GBP)(@1920) Sangli District
Four Reading Rooms		(GBP) Names not known

Table No. 11 continued ...

1	2	3
Satara District		
Malcolm Peth R R	1845	(GEP)
Mahabaleshwar (Prere Hall)		(GEP)
	1902	(1920) Petit NGL
Wai, Satara		(1920) Sarvajanik Vachanalaya Name changed 1929
		(1920) NGL
Panchagani		(1920)
Dahiwadi		(1920)
Ashta		(1920)
Islampur	1885	(1920)
Ashta		(1920) Coronation Club
Shirwal	1920	
Native States		
Phalton	1872	Victoria Diamond jubilee Library.
Sholapur District		
Sholapur	1853	Sholapur Native Library
	1874	Camp and Modikhana Library (1920)
	1881	(1920) Bazar Library
	1899	Lord Ripon Hall Library (1905)(1920)
	1915	Nemchand Nihalchand Pustakalaya
	1916	Maitreya Lodge Lib (1920)
	1916	Bahuja Kshatriya Mophat Vachanalaya
Barshi	1863	(GEP) (1920)
Karmala	1881	(GEP) Revived 1949
Pandharpur	1874	(GEP)(1920)
Vairag	1864	(GEP) Revived 1945
Sangola	1904	(1920)
Akkalkot	1875	
Mangalvedha	1875	
Thana District		
Thana	1850	Thana NGL (GEP) Mullock Lib.(1905)
	1893	Marathi Granthe Sangrahalaya(1905)(1920)
Bhivandi	1863	(GEP)(1920) NGL
		(1920) Anjuman-I-Moinul Lib (1920)
Bassein	1863	(GEP) (1920)
Kalyan	1864	(GEP)
Shahapur	1876	(GEP) Revived 1923
Uran	1865	(GEP)
Vada	1910	(1920)
Murbad		(1920)
Dahanu		(1920)
Tasgaon	1910	(1920)
Ageshi	1914	
Native States		
Jawhar		(1920)

Table No. 12 showing the names of public libraries registered with the Director of Public Instruction Bombay Presidency in 1920.

By the Director of Public Instruction
No G./12293,

List of Registered Vernacular Libraries in the Bombay Presidency which have accepted the rules in Government Resolution No. 2037 dated the 14th October 1909 and to which official publications shou ld be supplied.

(Completed upto 30th June 1920)

Serial No.	Name of Library
	BOMBAY DIVISION
Bombay City	
1.	Friend's Social Club Library No. 517, Boran Street, Bandra.
8.	Sir Dinshaw Petit Kanda Mohollah and Bharucha Mohollah library, Nizampura Street, Bombay.(1870)
9.	The People's Free Reading Room and Library, Fort, Bombay (1891)
11.	Dadabhoy Nasoroji Free Library and Reading Room, Marwari Bazar, Bombay
12.	Dhanjibhai Framji Library, Khetwadi, Bombay (1860)
13.	Pandit Gattulalji Library, Bhuleshwar, Bombay
14.	Dr Bhanderkar Library, Girgaum, Bombay (1897)
15.	The N M Wadia General Library, Bombay (1845) (name changed Native General Library, Bombay 1921)
16.	Javerilal Umashankar Yajnik Library (formerly known as Bhuleshwar Library), Bombay (1874)
19.	The Marathi Granth Sangrahalaya Bombay (1898)
20.	Sarvajanik Vachanalaya, Dadar, Bombay. (1907)
21.	Young Men's Christian Association, Chunam Kiln Road, Bombay.
22.	Konkanastha Namdeo Shimpee Shikshanattejak Mandali Vachanalaya, Bombay.
23.	Young Men's Hindu Association Library, Kandewadi, Bombay
24.	Catholic Association Library, Mahim, Bombay
37.	Saraswat Brahman Samaj Library, Thakurdwar Road, Girgaum, Bombay
41.	The Sidick Mahomad Sobani Free Reading Room and Library Hakim Building, Kambekar Street, Umarkhadi, Post No.8, Bombay.
43.	Anjuman-i-Islam Karimiya Library, Fort, Bombay
56.	Reading Room, Kurla, Bombay.
57.	The Bombay Central Cooperative Institute, Bombay.
Central Division	
East Khandesh	
11.	Native General Library, Yawal (1882)
12.	Vallabhdas Valjee Library, Jalgaon. (1877)
17.	Native General Library, Erandol

19 Sheth Narayan Bankat Library, Chalisgaon (1906)
26 Native General Library, Chopda
32 The Victoria Jubilee Library, Amalner.
35 Native General Library, Bhusawal
46 Native General Library, Jamner (1920)
48 Otto Rothfeld Library, Pachora
51 Sarvajanik Library, Nasirabad (1916)
56 Vachanalaya, Raver (1914)
36 Delhi Darbar Library, Bodwad

West Khandesh

5 Garud Library, Dhulia (A building grant of Rs.500 was sanctioned by Government Resolution Financial Department, no 1869 dated 2nd July 1872)
25 Lord Ripon Library, Nandurbar (1883)
34 The George V Library, Nawapur
43 The Victoria Library, Shirpur
52 The Wales Library, Sakri (1917)
57 Baba Satwa Sheth Library, Pimpalner

CENTRAL DIVISION
Ahmednagar District

14 Islami Library, Ahmednagar.
18 The City Library, Ahmednagar. (1838)
13 Native General Library, Sangamner.
16 Vachanalaya, Ashwi, Taluka Sangamner.
22 The Native General Library, Nevasa.
28 The Victoria Native General Library, Shevgaon (1887)
44 The General Free Library, Sonai.

Satara District

4 Victoria Library (otherwise known as Native General Library) Satara. (1852)
31 The Sarvajanik Vachanalaya, Satara.
38 Native General Library, Wai.
39 The Coronation Club Library, Ashta.
40 The Native General Library, Tasgaon.(1910)
41 The Native General Library, Vita
42 The Honorable Bomanji Dinshaw Petit Native General Library, Mahabaleshwar.
49 The Sarvajanik Vachanalaya Islampur. (1885)
53 Panchgani Library and Gymkhana
54 The General Library, Dahiwadi
55 Granthasangrahalaya, Wai
58 Balshitachintak Library, Ashta.

Sholapur District

7 Bazar Library, Sholapur (1881)
8 Ripon Hall Library, Sholapur (1899)
9 Camp and Modikhana Library, Sholapur. (1874)
37 Native General Library, Sholapur (1853)
33 The Maitreya Lodge Theosophical Society's Library, Sholapur. (1916)
6 Native General Library, Pandharpur. (1874)
15 Native General Library, Barsi (1863)
45 The General Library, Sangola. (1904)

Poona District

1. Poona City General Library, Poona *(1848)
2. The Poona Islam Library of the Deccan Anjuman-i-Himayat-ut-Tulaba, Malcolm tanks, Gaffar Beg Street, Camp, Poona.
3. Albert Edward Institute and Cowasji Dinshaw Library, Poona (1875)
20. The Raste's Peth Reading Room and Library, Raste's Peth, Poona city (1881)
30. The Poona Jewish Reading Room and Library, Raste's Peth, Poona city.
47. The Deccan Moslem Institute, Poona Camp.

21. The General Library, Junnar (1917)
23 Shri Dnyandev Wachan Mandir, Alandi
27 The Vachanalaya, Saswad
29 The General Reading Room and Library, Lonavala, Poona district (1915)
50 The Dnyan Samvardhak Library, Indapur.
10 Native General Library, Baramati (1910)
24 Native General Library, Khed.

* A building grant of Rs.8,800 was sanctioned by Government Resolution No 1619 dated 8th September 1888, but ultimately Rs. 12,075-8-0 were actually paid.

BOMBAY DIVISION

Ratnagiri District

30 The GeneralLibrary, Ratnagiri. (1850)
25 Native General Library Chiplun. (1864)
26 Native General Library, Dapoli
27 Vachan Mandir, Shirode, Taluka Vengurla. (1906)
28 The Native General Library, Deorukh.
31 The Native General Library, Vengurla.
(Government gave a building grant of Rs. 500/- vide Government Resolution Educational Department No 144, dated 23rd August 1870)
34 The Native General Library, Rajapur (1867)
44 The Vernacular Library, Anjani, Taluka Khed.
48 The Library at Khed.
49. The Rameshwar Sarvajanik Vachan Mandir, Achre. (1894)

Kolaba District

29 Karsandas Mulji Library, Matheran. (1897)
32 The Kridabhuwan Library, Alibag.
35 The General Union Library Uran.
45 The Granth Sangrahalaya and Vachanalaya, Pen.
52 The Sarvajanik Vachanalaya, Alibag (1917)
54 Edward Library, Mahad
55 The Roha Vachanalaya Roha (1917)

Table No. 12 continued ...

Nasik District

5 The Nasik General Library, Nasik City (1853)
60 The Justice Ranade Mophat Vachanalaya, Nasik (1907)
6 The Native General Library, Malegaon City (1864)
10 The Urdu Library, Malegaon City
17 Native General Library, Malegaon Camp (1853)
7 Native General Library, Yeola (1866)
46 The Reading Club, Manmad. (1915)
47 Trimbak Vachanalaya, Trimbak
50 The Ananta Vachanalaya, Ozer, Taluka Niphad
58 Shri Mankeshwar Vachanalaya, Niphad. (1919)
51 The General Library, Satana, Taluka Baglan.
53 The Igatpuri Reading Room, Igatpuri
59 Cooperative Credit Society's Reading Room, Igatpuri
71 Lokmanya Vachanalaya, Dabhodi.

Thana District

2 The Mullock Library (otherwise known as Native General Library) Thana (1850)
(Government gave the site for the library and also a building grant of Rs.1727 vide Government Resolution no 2178 dated the 12th December 1882.
38 Marathi Granthasangrahalaya, Thana (1893)
3 The Anjuman-i-Moinul Library, Bhivandi
36 The Native General Library, Bhiwandi (1863)
4 The Native General Library, Vada. (1910)
39 Bhau Gampat Library, Murbad
40 The Native General Library, Dahanu
42 The Bassein Library, Bassein. (1863)

Native States - Central Division

Kolhapur
1 Native General Library, Kolhapur. (1850)
2 Native General Library, Gadahinglaj.
4 Native General Library, Shirol
5 Native General Library, Gargoti
6 Young Men's Christian Association Library, Kolhapur.
17 Native General Library, Digraj
18 Native General Library Terdal
21 Native General Library Kavathe Mahankal

Miraj
3 The Library at Miraj (1919)
9 Native General Library, Budhyaon (Miraj Jr)
10 Native General Library, Gudgeri (Miraj Jr)
11 Vritta Vahan Shala Library, Khandali (Miraj Jr.)

Ichalkaranji
7 Apte Vachan Mandir, Ichalkaranji (1870)
13 Native General Library, Ajra (1870 or 1889)
14 Native Vachan Mandir, Utur
30 The State Library, Kurundwad (1915)
16 Native General Library, Sangli (1864)

Table No. 12 Continued ...

Bombay Division - Native States

1	The State Library, Jawhar District Thana	
2	The Library at Sawantwadi (1852)	
5	Rao Bahadur Anant Shivaji Desai Library, Kudal, Sawantwadi State.	
6	Library at Banda, Sawantwadi State	
3	Native General Library, Murud, Janjira State	(1882)
4	Native General Library, Shrivardhan, Janjira State	(1964)

J.G.COVERNTON,
Director of the Public Instruction

Poona, 30th October 1920.

(Published in The Bombay Government Gazette,

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Table No. 13 showing the position of public libraries in Western Maharashtra in 1905.

	Name of the Library (1)	No.of vols (2)	Exp on Books (3)	Special Collection (4)	Class of Lib (5)	Catalogue Printed Last (6)
			Rs.			
	Poona					
1	Native General Library, Poona	6652	250	History & Novels	c	1902
2	Reste's Peth Library	1000	50	All sorts of books	c	no
3	Poona Jewish RR and Library Reste Peth	1000	60	-do-	c	no
4	Albert Edward Institute	5000	400	nil	c	1904
	Sholapur District					
5	District Court Law Library	525	100	Law books	c	no
6	Ripon Hall Municipal Library	550	520	Ref and Fiction	c	1904
	Satara District					
7	Mahabaleshwar Library	3927	350	Gen Literature	c	1903
8	Bomanji Dinshaw Petit NGL House No.30,M'var (Opened 13 May 1902)	1391	nil	Eng,Guj & Mar Lit (strong in Eng)	c	Rs.1500 spent for books in 1902
9	City General Library,Satara City	5014	215		c	1892
	Nasik District					
10	Native General Library,Nasik	2699	34-6-0	no speciality	c	no
11	District Court Law Lib,Nasik	551	175-0-0	Law	c	no
12	Native General Library,Yeola	691	42-8-0	no	c	no
13	Native General Library,Malegaon	1729	25.0.0	no	c	no
14	Urdu Library, Malegaon	128	141-6-8	no	c	no

Table No.13 Continued...

	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Ratnagiri District					
15	Native General Library, Ratnagiri	2378	474	Gen Lit	c	no
16	European Club Library, ,,	700	50	Gen,Lit	c	no
	Thana District					
17	Thana Marathi Granthasangrahalaya	3807	125	Old Marathi Mss and Books	c	1895
18	Thana Mulock Library	913	25	Strong in light lit.	c	no
	Kolaba District					
19	Krida Bhuvan, Alibag	300	25	no	c	no
20	Pen Sarvajanik Granthasangrahalaya ani vachanalaya, Pen	442	nil	no newly opened	c	no
21	Chandraseniya Kayastha Prabhu Club, Nagothane	275	nil	no	boatsmen only	
22	Public Library, Nagothane	381	7	no	c	no
23	Native General Library, Panvel	309		no	c	no
24	Native General Library, Pelaspe	350	15	no	c	no
25	Sarvajanik Vachanalaya, Apte Panvel	643		Marathi novels	s	no
26	Uran General Union Library, Uran	480	60	Novels	c	no
27	Bal Library, Dahivali Tal. Karjat	250	nil	no	s	no
	Ahmednagar District					
28	Ahmednagar City Library, Near Civil Hospital	4000	160	no	c	no
29	Ahmednagar club Library, Cantonment	4000	150	no	c	no
	Khandesh District					
30	Native General Library, Taloda	nil	nil	nil	c	no
31	Native General Library, Parola	90	10	nil	c	no
32	Native General Library, Yaval	500	nil	nil	c	no
33	Native General Library, Bhadgaon	115	indefinite	nil	c	no
34	Victoria Library, Shirpur	275	50-75	English Lit	c	no
35	Native General Library, Bhusaval	711	40-50	nil	c	no
36	Native General Library, Jalgaon	1141	100	Eng & Mar	c	no
37	Victoria Jubilee Native General Library, Amalner	679	nil	-do-	c	no

Table No. 13 continued ...

	1	2	3	4	5	6
38	Native General Library, Dhulia	2935	200	novels largest	c	no
39	Shamondai lib Sindkheda	202	25	nil	c	no
	Bombay City					
1	Peoples Free Reading Room and Library, Fort Street	7000	3600	Fiction	c	1902
2	The Family Circulating Free Lib. Lorsh bazaar st.	2000	500	Gujarathi novels	s	1902
3	Theosophical Library, Hornby Road	3000	2000	Theosophical	s	-do-
4	J N Petit Institute, Hornby Rd	14000	600	Novels and fiction	c	1901
5	Sassoon Mechanics Institute, Esplanade Road	14000	600	,,	c	1885
6	Royal Asiatic Society, Town Hall	11akh	3000	Science, History,	c	1873 with yearly supplement
7	Seamen's Rest, Frere Road	300	nil	Eng. Mag & Books	for seafering men	no
8	Seamens Institution, Frere Road	600	nil	-do-		no
9	Muljl Jivraj Khoja Library, Bonted Street (chiefly patronised by Khoja community)	1600	300	General		1900
10	Jumma Masjid Library	3000	200	Arabic, persian Urdu, Eng, Religion	Muslims	no
11	Royal Institute, Dadyset Agiary lane, Caval	2000	250	Eng. Fiction	c	1901
12	Caval Catholic RR and Lib	500	355	Religion	c	no
13	Native General Library, Dhobi Talao	21000	2000	Eng. Fiction	c	1898-1903
14	Anjuman-I-Islam Library, Parel Rd Bhendi bazar	4000	100	Fiction	c	1900
15	Sir D M Petit Kanda Mohalla Lib. Nizam Street	1550	75	Fiction	c	1895-99 1902

Table No. 13 continued ...

1		2	3	4	5	6
16	Javerilal Umayashenker Yajnik Bhaleshwar Library	6000	150	Fiction	c	1895
17	Sir Bhandarkar Free Lib and RR Churney Road, Girgaum	1300	nil	Religion	a	1903
18	Sadabhoy Nowroji Library, Chikalwadi, Tardeo	200	nil	Law Books	a	nil
19	Telugu Dnyanotejak Bazar Rd, Kamatipura	1000	nil	novels in vernacular	c	nil

Note:
Column 5 a Subscription Library
b Restricted Admission
c Public Subscription Library

(Reference : Bombay Archives, General Department, 1905 vol 52)

Annex No. 14. Progress made by Public Libraries in the Western Maharashtra upto 1920

Town	Year	Members	Reading material	Issue of B and P	Library Finance		Other
					Income	Exp.	
Poona Albert Edward Inst & CD Lib	1920		5700 B+P 20 P		Subs and interest on endowment fund		1 Clerk. Untrained
Sangli	1908-9		1227 Eng 855 Mar	316 Eng 884 Mar	640	173 B 203 NP 192 Estt 590	
	1913-14	128 I 9 II 15 III 13 IV 97 V 2	1300 Eng 1846 Mar	500 Eng 2635 Mar	937	841 300 Est	1 Clerk 1 Peon 1 Watchman/Mali
	1918-19	207		800 Eng 4155 Mar	1134	1012	
	1920-21	283 I 1 II 12 III 25 IV 228 V 16	2182 Eng 2059 Mar (1924-25)	1976 Eng 81 Sans 8415 Mar	1336	1137 161 B 333 NP 404 Est.	

Contd...

Town	Year	Members	Reading Material	Issue of B and P	Library Finance Income	Library Finance Exp.	Other
Kolhapur Native Library	1916-17	631 Pat 1 Hon 2 I 2 II 11 III 37 IV 582 V 20	11483 5657 Eng 5710 Mar 16 Mis 710 New Books add 40 NP 49 Mag	18550 5500 Eng 13050 Mar 2000 Nov Eng 6200 Nov Mar	2513 Res Fund 7837	1913 495 NP 351 Books 630 Pat	Lectures 3 English 2 Marathi Daily attendence 150-175
	1920-21		NP & Mag 50 Eng 63 Mar		2845 2600 Sub 100 Int 85 Mis 60 Res F	2798 600 NP 600 B 800 Pat 150 Bind 150 Con 250 Bldg 200 Mis 40 Bal	
Sholapur	1921-22	221	1094 B (1915)	4550 (1910)	801		
Poona Native General Library	1889	190 (1891)	1690 B 26 NP 4 P		14547 Res F 6468	11499	Building Completed

Contd..

Table No. 14 (Contd.)

Town	Year	Members	Reading material	Issue of B and P	Library Finance: Income	Library Finance: Exp	Other
Bhuleshwar Library, Bombay	1895	600 M 22 LM	5500 3840 Eng 1190 Guj 26 San 319 Mar 101 NP&Per.				
Sassoon Mechanics Institute Bombay	1899-1900	267 M 104 LM 5 HLM 501 Visitors		67410	300 LM 4922 QM 250 EM 800 Int 1744 Bal 2000 Res Fund	3893 Pst 392 Gas 1709 NPF 580 NPI 959 Books 9576	
Petit Institute Bombay	Progress upto 1898 described on pages 183,184,200						
	1905	2481 31 Women M	10600 B 200 P 402 Gp	22584 B 87717 P			
	1915	3098 70 Women M	2000 B 217 P 425 Gp	42412 B 87800 P			

Contd..

Table No. 14 (Contd.)

Town	Year	Members	Reading material	Issue of B & P	Library Finance Income	Library Finance Exp	Other
Petit Institute Bombay (Contd)	1920	4000 M 113 Women M (1923)	30000 239 P 298 P 668 Gp (1925)	53995 B 39284 P (1925)	6000 Int. from Endowments 32000 Sub 38000	15000 Bks etc purchased for 1918	1 Chief L. 4 Asst L 5 Clerks 20 Peons
BNGL, Bombay	1912	1492	514 Don	12370 B 6600 NP 9260 Per	9922	9678 2019 B	Daily atten. 200.
Shifted to rented bldg	1918	825 42 LM 36 I 78 II 609 III	NP+B 43 Ind. 45 Foreign	5867 B 2160 NP 5746 Per Chandan-wadi RR Khetwadi RR Attendance 80, 40	6120 Sub 165 NP Sale 962 Int 7248 1000 Don 26-3 Sale of Bonds	2098 NP+B 654 B 3743 Rent 215 Bln 11901 Tot Books 84650 Furn 8148 92798 116598	Capital Fund Lib. Gen F 1200 Lib F 5100 Donors 17500
BNGL, Bombay	1920		18000 B+P 16 NSS 120 Mis 200 NP+Per			2700 B+P	Est. Libn 1 Clerks 2 Peons 10

Continued ...

Table No. 15 giving details of library buildings constructed at District towns and other places from 1881 to 1920.

Name of the Library	Year of construction.	Amount of expenditure incurred and donations collected etc.
Dhulia		
Native General Library, Dhulia	24-2-1907	Land donated by Dhulia Municipality on recommendation of the Collector on 16 Oct 1905.
Name changed to Dhondo Shamrao Garud Library.		Rs.1500 donated by Ganpatrao Govindrao Garud in memory of Dhondo Shamrao Garud.
Ichalkaranji	1886	Donations from the People
Native General Library, Ichalkaranji.		Land purchased by Rambhau Apte.
Name changed to Apte Vachan Mandir	(1897)	Building completed from the State Funds.
Jalgaon	1909.	12509 Total expenditure
Native General Library, Jalgaon		4000 Reserve fund of the library.
Name changed to Vallabhdas Valji Library.		4000 Donation from Mulji Jetha Co.
		4000 Donation from Bhagirath Ramchandra Shet
		500 Municipality donation (1891)
		500 Land sold by Municipality costing Rs.500 to library (1891).
Kalyan	1884	Inaugurated by Mr.Mulock
Mulock General Lib Town Library		Donations collected ffom the people.
Kolhapur	1921	7602 Balance upto Dec. 1919
Kolhapur Native Library	Extension of the building	7500 Efforts of Shri Bhaskarrao Jadhav, the President of the Library
		Land 33' x 75' purchased in 1915-16. Reading Hall opened in 1921.

Contd....

Table No. 15 (Contd)

Name of the Library	Year of construc-tion	Amount of expenditure incurred and donations collected etc.
Kudal, Native General Library. Dist. Ratnagiri	1889	Small building erected with assistance from people
Name changed to Raobahadur Anant Shivaji Desai Topiwale Granthalaya	1920	Land donated by Manesh Bhagwant Kulkarni. First Floor built with donations from Rao Bahadur Anant Shivaji Desai Topiwale, Merchant of Bombay.
Poona Albert Edward Inst.	1901	Rs. 15000 donation by Cowasji Dinshaw Merchant of Aden
Name changed to The Albert Edward Institute and Cowasji Dinshaw Hall and Library.		
Poona Native General Library	1889	(Details given in Chapter 5)
Rajapur Native General Library Dist. Ratnagiri	1-9-1914	Rs. 1850 Donations from People Land donated by Shri Kulkarni
Sangli Sangli General Library	1911	Rs. 4200 - Grant from the Sangli state Rs. 3000 in 1909 Rs. 329 in 1910 Rs. 880 in 1911. Area built 36 x 18' Length - Breadth One floor building
Sangli State	1921 9 August Extension of Bldg.	Rs. 1992 Expendture by library (Donations and Reserve Fund) Rs. 1800 Advance from Sangli State. Area Built Room 12' x 18' " 12' x 18' Total Area Built 60'x18'

Continued..